■ PENAL REFORM

Frankfurt prison builds to solve babes-behind-bars problem

This year accommodation for the children of imprisoned mothers will be built in the grounds of Frankfurt's Preungesheim Prison. This plan is the brainchild of prison governess Helga Einsele who founded a registered society "Kinderheim Preungesheim" especially for the purpose. The children's home will cost two million Marks to build.

Karl Hemfler, the Minister of Justice in Hesse state released the money required for this project. The society will deal with the interior fittings and decorations. In the autumn of this year the first twenty mothers and 25 children should be moving in.

Preungesheim has five years of experience of the benficial rehabilitating effect of continued close contact between the convict mother and her child. For the past five years accomodation of a provisional nature has been available for seven children in rooms behind the porter's lodge. The children aged between six weeks and three years sleep, eat and play there behind bars.

Three times each day the mothers come to nurse their little ones, most of whom have been born out of wedlock. Many of the mothers have a background of prostitution and a broken home and this is the first time they have been free to devote their attentions to their children.

Prison regulations generally make little provision for babes and births behind bars, yet in Preungesheim alone there have been 200 children born in the past fifteen years. Faced with this fact Helga Einsele issued a challenge to her justice minister in 1967 – a challenge that had no legal basis at the outset.

She opened up a "nursery" of two rooms with five cots between the prison laundry and the staff canteen. This accommodation is quite insufficient for mother and child to live together, but at least those women prisoners with children, who work in the prison laundry, the gardens or the workshop can come and look after their children three times a day and thus strike up that contact with their infants that is so important for the child.

Helga Einsele's energy saw to the foundation of the "Verein Kinderheim Preungesheim" in 1969. Its declared aim was to carry out an important piece of welfare work by building a home for these unfortunate children. The symbolic laying of the foundation stone was back in 1971. At present mechanical shovels are churning over the soil in the prison yard. The building when completed will have twenty cells for the mothers, a nappy-changing room, a playroom and a playground for the children. It will not be connected with the main cell block in any way.

Paul Lindemann, the Chairman of the Society, said: "This Society has been recognised by the general public and many of them have taken the idea to their heart."

At present the society has only 160 members, but 800 people make regular charitable contributions to its funds. The Protestant and Catholic Churches have both invested 100,000 Marks towards the children's home.

The society does not only collect money, but also willing hands – people prepared to give lessons to the women, or in some cases private tuition. Already 28 courses are being prepared. They concentrate on practical skills such as sewing, cookery, photography, typing, bookkeeping, and they encourage the women to think for themselves by means of group therapy, acting in plays with sociological themes, discussion groups and German and English lessons.

Elementary education is in greatest demand. Most of the women have never learnt anything and they find this a great burden. In the juvenile block there are two illiterates. Hardly any of the women have learnt a trade and twenty per cent did not even complete their elementary school education.

Even in the smallest groups difficulties are often experienced with many of the women which can only be overcome by individual tuition or special attention by teaching staff.

Similarly personality problems crop up in the relationship between convict mother and her child. Among the therapeutic aims of the Society and the children's home it will be building is to school mothers in how to look after their children and bring them up.

Normally, pregnant women who are convicted are sent to a prison with hospital attached. Six weeks after birth the young ones are removed from t[...] mother and put in a home.

The exceptions are the women's pri[...] in Augsburg, Gotteszell and Lübeck[...] these three penal institutions the ba[...] born behind bars are brought up [...] and made to fit in with everyday p[...] life.

They are regularly brought in to [...] their mothers or live with them [...] same cell. After one, or at the very [...] two, years they are taken to a home. [...] is two or three years too soon.

Sweden, Denmark, Finland, [...] Netherlands and the United State[s] have prisons in which mothers can [...] full time with their children. Th[...] prisons do not go out of their way [...] adjust their routine to fit the needs [...] youngsters, bur rather the youngs[...] must be made to fit in with the routine [...] prison life.

So far the only prison to w[...] mothers can bring children born be[...] their crime was committed is Preung[...]heim. But this go-ahead prison has [...] five, or in emergency seven places [...] and last year thirteen children had t[...] refused admission.

One women who has only bee[...] Preungesheim for three weeks ha[...] leave four children behind. They have [...] been put into different homes. [...] youngest is only six months old. It w[...] taken into the new building to join [...] mother, but that will not be till the [...] of the year.

Being prepared to take children u[...] five the new home will go much fur[...] than other such projects. The scie[...] studies of the Munich paediatr[...] Johannes Pechstein are being follo[...]. He says that until a child is about fi[...] needs its mother's loving attention.

The financing of this project w[...] guaranteed by Federal welfare legislation.

Karin von Be[...]

(Die Welt, 11 Januar[y ...])

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 15 February 1973
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Talks on troop reduction talks begin in Vienna

The Viennese counterpart of the security conference, the preliminary talks on mutual balanced force reduction in Europe (MBFR), have got off to a slow but measured start, as though the preliminaries were designed to demonstrate yet again that the troop cut talks will be a protracted affair.

The process will take several stages and each stage will include particular difficulties of its own, not to mention its own critical juncture.

In the initial phase the delegations from the two alliances, Nato and the Warsaw Pact, will have to go beyond declarations of intent on disarmament and draft a feasible timetable and rules and regulations for the MBFR talks.

On the way to the second stage they will also, however, need to have achieved sufficient progress to demonstrate to the world at large their will to disarm and so assure themselves of a fund of goodwill. They will, that is, have to arrive at measures calculated to foster confidence.

What the West had in mind in defining the complex links between the MBFR talks and the security conference was to delegate these measures to the security conference, by which the Eastern Bloc sets such great store, the idea being to obviate the need to deal with such small fry at the more exclusive MBFR talks and so get down to more fundamental problems.

This was a logical decision and its implementation bore witness to considerable acumen but MBFR now lacks second-stage easy meat issues prior to negotiating more substantial agreements.

These preliminary issues must not be such tough nuts as to grind the talks to a halt yet at the same time they must not be so trivial as to make the conference a laughing-stock.

At the third stage the conference would then be able to get down to individual weapons systems and reach agreement on a freeze in relevant sectors of conventional military potential prior to tackling the fourth and final stage, that of reducing military stockpiles, with all the difficulties that incomparability and assymetry of the two alliances as their military potentials now stand present.

If MBFR is to have any future as an institution stages three and four must be reached as soon as possible. Assuming there to be a compromise between the necessary and the politically feasible and bearing in mind the common denominators arrived at in the course of the Salt talks between the superpowers "as soon as possible" can be taken to mean within a year.

Viewed in this light the imminent decisions of the preliminary talks over the next few days and weeks are of major importance for the fate of MBFR.

Disagreement over the number of participants, as demonstrated by the Warsaw Pact proposals of 18 January, serves to underline this importance.

It would be rather too easy to maintain that keeping the number of participants down to the twelve countries directly affected by troop cuts in Central Europe is the key to success and to make out all proposals for increasing the number of participants to be an Eastern Bloc subterfuge.

The neutral countries' interest in MBFR is too serious and too justified to warrant accusations of this kind. What is more, the course of security conference preliminaries so far in Helsinki has shown that the neutrals have no intention of allowing themselves to be relegated to the status of Soviet aides and that on individual issues Nato can definitely think in terms of this third force as a partner "against" the Soviet Union.



This way to the disarmament conference,please

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

As the West has realised this to be the case it will still advocate the limitation of full membership of MBFR to the twelve countries directly concerned but will not stand on principle to the extent of jeopardising the success of the preliminary talks.

One compromise solution would be to vary the number of participants at the various stages of the talks (rather than to accord their delegations varying status).

On occasion, for instance, not only the twelve countries directly concerned and seven flanking countries from both sides but also neutral countries could participate in some form or other yet to be negotiated.

In the final analysis such agreement as is reached would be concluded and guaranteed by a smaller number of countries. At the third and fourth stages of the talks it would, in any case, prove advisable to provide for prior discussion of issues of substance by a special standing committee.

To begin with it is gratifying to note that the preliminary round of talks in Vienna commenced according to schedule, the long-term timetable of detente remaining at least outwardly valid and troop cut talks and security conference running side by side.

It was carnival time in Vienna as the MBFR delegations got down to a definition of a framework and the approach runs leading up to a troop cut conference. The MBFR talks have a tough schedule ahead of them.

Christian Potyka

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 February 1973)

IN THIS ISSUE

Bonn introduces measures to halt dollar influx

Decisive measures to counteract the influx of dollars were taken by the Bonn Cabinet at a special session on 3 February. They provide for the purchase of stocks and shares in this country by foreigners to be made subject to permission, likewise the raising of loans by and the provision of credit to Federal Republic nationals abroad and investment in this country by foreign nationals and enterprises. These regulations come into force immediately on Cabinet approval in accordance with Par. 23 of the Foreign Trade Act.

Parliamentary approval must first be given to a further measure providing for the compulsory deposit with the Bundesbank of 100% of loans raised abroad; at present fifty per cent must be held in reserve at the bank of issue.

Without Bundesbank permission industry is now virtually unable to raise funds abroad and foreigners are no longer able to invest in this country at will, be it by buying stocks and shares, setting up firms in the Federal Republic or ploughing substantial amounts of money into existing subsidiaries here.

These are trenchant measures, associated moreover in the eyes of supporters of a free-market economy with such tainted concepts as compulsion and controls.

The Federal government had practically no alternative, though, a fact acknowledged for the most part by both industry and the Opposition. Bonn had to pull the communication cord and slam on the anchors.

The Federal government and the Bundesbank had to stop the growing influx of dollars in order to prevent measures designed to combat inflation from being rendered ineffective by the imported variety.

In view of the extent to which domestic industry is dependent on exports there could be no question of Mark revaluation or floating, which would have been tantamount to revaluation. The repercussions of revaluation would have been a good deal more than merely to run counter to the December 1971 international exchange-rate agreement not to allow the par rate of the dollar to fall below DM 3.15.

Even so, one can but wonder whether the controls now imposed will prove effective in the long term. The first steps in this direction were taken in Bonn six months ago but peace and quiet prevailed for a matter of months only.

Is the intensification of exchange controls merely a temporary emergency measure, as the standing council of chambers of commerce and industry hope? Or does it amount to no more than procrastination, as exchange brokers reckon?

Savings banks' association president Geiger declares that Common Market countries must pursue common exchange-rate policies. Opposition leader Rainer Barzel claims that a reorientation of the international monetary system is needed.

Splendid ideas, no doubt, but not what one might call fresh from the mint. The length of time they have been in currency is some indication of the international difficulties in the way of their implementation.

In the circumstances no one can object to the Federal government resorting to home-made measures, as it were, to counteract developments that threaten to be dangerous for the home economy.

Monetary policy has not, however, been rendered any the easier now that after nearly fifteen years of derestriction exchange controls have been reintroduced in this country.

Otmar Prantl

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 5 February 1973)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Sino-Soviet rivalry will continue in Vietnam

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG
Christ und Welt

The first few days of the Vietnam armistice exceeded even the worst expectations. The North Vietnamese and the Vietcong launched surprise attacks in an attempt to take strategic points by force, particularly those that would enable them to command access routes to Saigon.

In view of these isolated moves by the other side on the threshold between war and armistice the South Vietnamese army was in no mood to make peace either.

The Saigon government was well aware that the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese would continue to try to encircle the towns and cities and canvass support for the Communist cause in the countryside. The immediate outcome of the armistice was thus an intensification of the struggle with higher losses on both sides.

The fighting spirit and morale of South Vietnamese President Thieu and his leadership remain intact. Whether his forces will in the long run succeed in holding on to their positions without the assistance of the US air force is another matter altogether, though.

The armistice agreement itself and appendices are couched in terms so vague, they would seem, indeed, to have been drafted with such culpable amateurishness that they appear ill-suited either to guarantee the cease-fire or to pave the way for peace.

Critical scrutiny of the various provisions of the Paris agreement in view of the confused situation that has now arisen could well lead one to believe that its sole purpose was to provide an alibi for the US withdrawal from Vietnam.

In the military sector it is hard to visualise how international inspection is to prove effective. The Saigon government is not unjustified in fearing that Poland and Hungary will be biased in favour of the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese from the start.

At critical junctures the armistice commission will be stymied because its decisions have to be unanimous.

What is more, the number of military inspectors is insufficient. Overnight the Communists have already established several dozen manned checkpoints and roadblocks on roads to and from Saigon. *The armistice commission could not be represented at all these points at one time even if the two parties of the Paris agreement were to afford the commission genuine opportunities of inspection, which is hardly likely.*

According to the provisions of the agreement a provisional demarcation line and demilitarised zone are again to be established at the seventeenth parallel along the Ben Hai river.

Yet no one is in a position to say whether the North Vietnamese and the Vietcong, who currently control the region south of the Ben Hai as far as the hotly contested town of Quang Tri will evacute the zone and hand over control to Saigon troops.

If Communist troops remain south of the Ben Hai and the seventeenth parallel the demarcation line will of course be both meaningless and ineffective.

Even military inspection of the immediate vicinity of Saigon remains wishful thinking. How, for that matter, are the 1,160 international observers, assuming for purposes of argument that they were to toe the same line, to seal off South Vietnam's completely open frontiers with Laos and Cambodia?

Unsuspecting observers at the signing of the armistice agreement in Paris imagined there to be a chart on which the spheres of influence of the Communists and the Thieu regime were market in detail. It now transpires that the law of the jungle is to be the main criterion of the division of South Vietnam into the much-vaunted leopardskin.

Both armies in the civil war are busy pulling down the other's flags in villages in the Mekong delta and along the coast of Annam.

The political commissars of the Vietcong are trying to present the other side with faits accomplis, whereas President Thieu proclaims that any Communist who puts in an appearance in his sphere of influence will be shot.

The military confusion is so utter and complete because the fundamental prerequisites of a political settlement have been neglected. The Americans celebrated as a glorious victory the fact that the Council for National Reconciliation, contrary to Communist wishes, has not been provided with a clear function.

The Council can certainly not lead to a coalition government composed of Thieu supporters, Communists and neutrals, and by totally reducing the political prospects of the Council for National Reconciliation the Americans have succeeded in destroying the sole prospect the two sides in the civil war had of progressing towards rapprochement.

According to the terms of the armistice agreement as it now stands the neutral members of the Council are to be co-opted jointly by Thieu supporters and Communists. The upshot is that it is doubtful whether the Council for National Reconciliation will ever be convened.

The neutrals, the potential mediators, are the first victims of the Paris agreement. President Thieu is under no compulsion to free his political prisoners, and they include the majority of neutral politicians.

The Council for National Reconciliation is to pave the way for free elections, yet neither side is particularly interested in democratic elections, the outcome of which would be most uncertain for both.

Even so, a further reduction in hostilities is conceivable over the next few days. The Communists have nothing to gain by provoking the Americans as long as US troops are still in Vietnam, and even if regular engagements were to come to an end Communist guerrillas would remain in the villages and murder and terror would remain political expedients for both sides.

What shape is pacification of Vietnam to take as long as hostilities continue in Laos and Cambodia? In military terms the Communists have the upper hand in both countries.

In this respect too the Paris agreement is criminally negligent. It could, of course, be that in Laos a compromise solution along the lines of the 1962 accords will prove possible.

With the blessing of the great powers the two half-brothers Souvanna Phouma and Souphanouvong, the one Premier in Vientiane, the other a Pathet Lao leader may yet come to the terms on which they have failed to reach agreement for the past decade.

The situation in Cambodia is a good deal more complicated, however. Prince Sihanouk, who rejects out of hand any form of exchange with his opponent Marshal Lon Nol, can count on unreserved support from Peking.

China is likely to insist that Norodom Sihanouk be reinstated as head of state before he condescends to contribute towards a solution of the Indo-China question.

North Vietnam has jealously endeavoured to ensure that the end of the second Indo-Chinese war is not made subject to international supervision as was the outcome of the war against the French.

Hanoi has only partially been successful. At the end of February an international Vietnam conference is to begin. It will include not only the two belligerents, the United States, North Vietnam, South Vietnam and the Vietcong, but also the four countries represented on the armistice commission, Hungary, Poland, Indonesia and Canada and four members of the UN Security Council, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and People's China. UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim of Austria will also be in attendance.

The great powers will thus again be confronted with the complications – possible further repercussions of the war in Vietnam. The opportunities for immediate intervention open to the permanent members of the UN Security Council are strictly limited, however.

The enormous US potential has failed to ensure victory for President Thieu and the United States will be taking good care not to be intricated in another Asian war.

In Indo-China the world will be provided with even more conclusive evidence of the seemingly irreconcilable differences between the two Communist great powers Russia and China.

Peter Scholl-Latour
(Deutsche Zeitung, 2 February 1973)

Bonn votes aid to Indo-China

Nordwest Zeitung

Swiftly and resolutely the Bonn government approved, on 31 January, an aid programme for Indo-China amounting to 140 million Marks this year alone.

The programme is worthy of note in two respects. For one it is not limited to the parties to the armistice, North and South Vietnam and the Vietcong, but specifically includes Laos and Cambodia, where guerrilla warfare continues unabated. Secondly, the Bonn aid programme is subject to the conclusion of peace. Development Aid Minister Erhard Eppler made it quite clear that aid towards reconstruction would not be forthcoming where shooting continued.

Provisions of this kind are more conducive to peace than any number of agreements reached with difficulty at the conference table. There are worse ways of spending dollars and Marks by the million than buying peace, as it were.

The speed with which the Federal government has moved does not mean that as much cash as possible will be handed over to dubious recipients at the earliest opportunity. Particularly with regard to reconstruction aid Bonn will carefully consider where assistence can be given and to whom.

The swift response is, if anything, a token that the German people have not forgotten their own troubled past and the aid placed at their disposal in the post-war years by the Western world.

~~At the same time it represents~~ a reminder from the Federal government to the general public that they too owe the world a debt of gratitude and last but not least it is a gesture naturally befitting a leading industrial country.

The United States, which in the post-war era was foremost among donors towards the reconstruction of the free part of Germany and the remainder of Europe by means of Marshall Aid, will appreciate Bonn's move as a welcome gesture of solidarity from a Western partner.

Alongside government aid considerable importance must, of course, be attached to the endeavours of charitable organisations and donations by members of the general public.

Even now, 28 years after the end of the Second World War, the man in the street associates the years prior to the 1948 currency reform less with the Marshall Aid millions than with the many private donations ranging from Care packets to Quaker foodstuffs that helped to mitigate distress.

This is a sector in which there remains plenty of scope for private initiative in the aftermath of the Vietnam war.

The Federal government has made a deliberate distinction between the forty million Marks in humanitarian aid, to be provided in crisis areas, if need be while fighting is still in progress, and the hundred million Marks worth of reconstruction aid for which the Development Aid Ministry is responsible.

Long-term reconstruction aid calls not only for more intensive contacts with, for instance, Communist North Vietnam but also for the utmost in coordination between donor countries so as to forestall the financing of conflicting interests from which the recipients of aid stand to benefit least.

The people most deserving of aid are the poor, war-weary general public and not those for whom the war has represented good business. *Rudi Kilgus*

(Nordwest Zeitung, 1 February 1973)

The German Tribune

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■ POLITICS

Kohl shows his hand in leadership race

WELT am SONNTAG

At a private meeting of the CDU national committee on 27 January the consequences for the party of the election defeat on 19 November were analysed, taking into account various autopsies of the conduct and consequences of the election campaign and the effect it is likely to have on party personalities and policies.

The following weekend a meeting of the CDU and CSU parliamentary parties in Berlin is planned. At the end of this round of self mortification there will be a meeting of the CDU national sub-committee.

Not eighteen months after the battle for the party leadership at the Saarbrücken party political conference in October 1971 the stilettos have been sharpened up again. The vendetta involves the same people, Barzel, Kohl, Stoltenberg, Köppler and Dregger. Perhaps Schröder will have another go, as well.

Helmut Kohl, the Palatinate Premier, was beaten by Barzel by 344 votes to 174 the last time around. He is still sticking to his plan to separate the party and parliamentary party leadership so that the party organisation can stand on its own two feet and not continue to play Cinderella to the *Fraktion* as it has done since Adenauer's day.

Kohl has made it quite clear that at the next party political conference in Hamburg on 10 October he will put up against Rainer Barzel for party chairmanship. Informed CDU sources suggest that Kohl announced his intention to Barzel by letter. If Kohl is successful Barzel would be badly hit, losing his position as chancellor-elect and leading position in the party and having to content himself with leadership of the parliamentary party.

Furthermore, (and this is an example of how the shock of last November has created scepticism in he CDU) party members are now reckoning that if Kohl wins the day in Hamburg and then next year, despite being highly respected as party leader Kohl loses the Rhineland Palatinate provincial assembly election, a distinct possibility considering the way the SPD picked up votes in the Rhine and Mosel area in November, it is on the cards that the CDU conference of 1975 will witness another change of leadership.

And the calculators calculate, three new chairmen in four years is something that no party can afford. If this happens we might as well go on holiday during the 1976 election, they say.

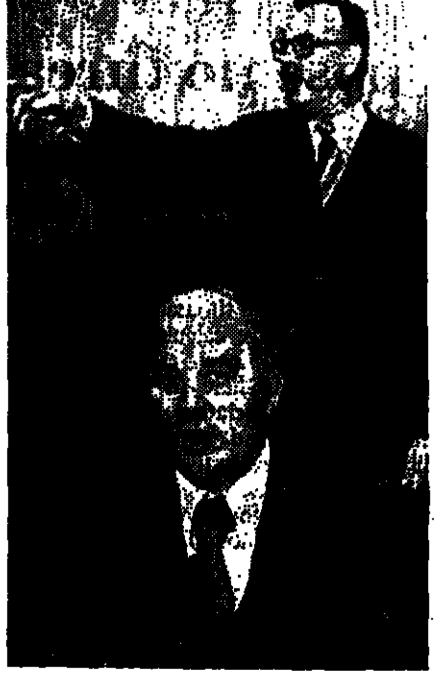
One leading light in the CDU is holding back – Gerhard Stoltenberg, the premier of Schleswig-Holstein. He knows that he has got a provincial assembly election to get through, and even in Schleswig-Holstein the CDU did not do so well on 19 November.

Stoltenberg told the press again recently that he had no intention of announcing pretensions to the party chairmanship at present. The party will have to draw the political consequences of the election defeat first, he said.

As for Rainer Barzel he made it clear at the Bonn conference that he was angry at opinion poll results suggesting that he had lost the CDU four per cent of their voters.

Those who know the leader of the Opposition realise that his reaction is: when will the public opinion pollsters tell me how many per cent party colleagues X and Y lost me?

Hans-Roderich Schneider
(Welt am Sonntag, 28 January 1973)



Rainer Barzel and Helmut Kohl at the January CDU conference

(Photo: dpa)

CDU election autopsy and future planning in Bonn

The CDU as a national popular party intends to pursue policies that do not "mistakenly pay too much attention" to individual vested interest groups. Particular emphasis will be laid on finding alternatives to the government's domestic policies.

At a two-day private conference of the CDU national committee in Bonn at which a post mortem was held on the election debacle of 19 November last CDU Chairman Rainer Barzel stated that the party would concentrate on matters such as vocational training, division of wealth and land laws.

Working programmes on domestic, foreign and security policies are to be presented to the national committee on 19 February. At the next national party conference in Hamburg between 7 and 10 October this year Helmut Kohl will be challenging Rainer Barzel for the post of new party Chairman.

Kohl is strongly in favour of separating the posts of party and parliamentary-party chairman, while Barzel favours keeping both offices in the hands of one man in order to express the strength of the Opposition.

More than ever, Kohl stated, the party must turn to the young, strike up dialogues with the Churches and the trades unions and concentrate on local politics to ensure a return to the town halls of the nation.

Explaining the defeat last November as he saw it, Rainer Barzel said that at some time in the sixties the CDU had lost its spiritual leadership over the country.

He denied emphatically the accusation that his own image had lost the party a good percentage of the electorate.

CDU General Secretary Konrad Kraske said: "The topic of peace and the image of Willy Brandt were obviously stronger emotive forces than the CDU had been able to offer either with its policies or its personalities." Furthermore, he said, the public discussion about the fate of former super-minister Schiller had done more harm than good to the "union" parties.

There was no discussion of personalities and posts at this meeting. Schleswig-Holstein premier Gerhard Stoltenberg refrained from making any comment on the candidature of Barzel and Kohl. CSU Chairman Franz Josef Strauss has also said that his party does not intend to involve itself in the CDU leadership problem.

But the Junge Union, the CDU/CSU's junior group has come out in favour of Rhineland-Palatinate premier Kohl as the new party Chairman.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 30 January 1973)

FDP juniors oust sole woman youth group chairman

It was in a spirit of belligerence that the hundred members of this year's ordinary national delegates conference of the Young Democrats (FDP's junior wing) voted the lawyer and economist Friedrich Neunhöffer as their new national chairman. With his 54 votes he ousted Ingrid Matthäus, the previous chairman (45 votes) at the meeting in Duisburg.

Following the Duisburg meeting we heard the opinion expressed that the usurpation of the only woman ever to have held the top position in one of the political youth organisations underlined the widely held prejudice that women are not suited to powerful positions in public life, and that emancipation has again been revealed as mere talk doomed to failure whenever anyone attempts to put it into practice.

But in the case of the Young Democrates precisely the opposite is the truth. The voting out of Ingrid Matthäus shows how much the young members of the liberal party have taken the idea of emancipation to their hearts.

The reasons for the change of leadership of the Young Democrats are to be found in quite a different sphere. Many members accused Mrs Matthäus of trying to use her mandate as Young Democrat Chairman to advance her personal career by trying to achieve a candidature for herself in a safe position on the North Rhine-Westphalia *Landesliste* and thus a seat in the Bundestag.

And they say she showed a lack of leadership, since the leading organisations within the Young Democrat group were never so much in conflict as during her chairmanship.

So much animosity was in evidence in Duisburg that members of the Young Democrat committee voted against each other in the election for a chairman.

But these personal quarrels appear to be a symptom of more deep-rooted troubles and a serious crisis in the general state of the Young Democrat group.

The differences of opinion between the individual Federal state groups over the right way of pursuing the "strategy of the two ways" that was decided upon two years ago (demanding, like the Young Socialist "double strategy" a modus operandi within the FDP and as the basis of society that is divided into two) are so divergent that a few days before the delegates conference the Hamburg state group took the opportunity of the breakdown of the number of delegates – 100 in all – as an occasion to threaten the implementation of a civil court action so as to "bust up" the meeting under certain circumstances.

To bring the dispute to one all-embracing, exaggerated denominator the main conflict in the Young Democrats revolves round the question of whether society in the Federal Republic can only be reformed by a long-term gradual nationalisation of everything or whether changes that fit in with the system are sufficient.

It was precisely on this question that the FDP parent party seemed to want to intervene, sending its special minister without portfolio Werner Maihofer to Duisburg. The Young Democrats have always regarded Maihofer as a kind of symbolic figure, and he tried to instil into them a new spiritual direction.

Quoting the Chancellor's expression "the new centre" he called on the Young Democrats to work actively towards reform of the system but to have nothing to do either with the stabilisation of it nor its liquidation.

This call, however, seems to have come a year too early. For the first task of the "Judos" is to bring order back to their own backyard. At the Duisburg meeting the burning questions were resolved by two tried and tested methods: with a practical policy of ignoring them and with a personnel policy which followed the mediaeval principle that strong barons always elect a weak emperor.

The Young Democrats also made sure they hit the headlines on the political pages with their acceptance of two motions on themes that are bound to provoke widespread public reaction and discussion. They approved the motion presented in "Liberalismus und Christentum" of a strict separation of Church and State. In this they demand that the Churches become institutions in private law, rather than corporations governed by public law, the revocation of all concordats and the abolition of Church tax.

And the conference in Duisburg called for the so-called Imperative Mandate for parties and parliaments. The national senior committee will prepare by next year recommendations of how the Imperative Mandate can be incorporated in the "Jungdemokraten" statute.

This move was started by Ingrid Matthäus, and one of the reasons why she was voted out was that she did not stick to the principles put forward by her own committees. *Hans Lerchbacher*

(Vorwärts, 1 February 1973)

Bundestag's twenty committees

The new Bundestag will form nineteen regular sub-committees and a special committee on law reform. The chairmanship of the regular sub-committees will be divided up among the three parliamentary party groups with nine each for the SPD and CDU/CSU and one for the FDP. As was stated on 26 January the parliamentary party leaderships have agreed on this set-up.

More precise details about who will head what and who will sit on which committee are to be decided upon in the next few weeks. In the last Bundestag there were seventeen regular and two special sub-committees.

As in the last Bundestag there will be committees with seventeen and 33 members, but the 25-man and 37-man committees have been dispensed with. The remaining committees will have the new grouping – nineteen and 27.

(Die Welt, 27 January 1973)

■ FUTUROLOGY

Computers pose no threat to jobs in the future, research institute proves

Science fiction writers like to suggest that we shall all be reactor specialists, marine agronomists, missile technicians, programmers, nuclear physicists and biochemists in future.

But this is just not true. Job experts forecast that even in the year 2000 the old traditional occupations such as locksmith, toolmaker or mechanic will still be more common that the new jobs offered by the computer industry, nuclear research or television technology.

The demand for biochemists and programmers will admittedly grow in the next few years. The number of biochemists is expected to double in the next ten years. But even then no more than about 160 biochemists will be needed in the Federal Republic.

The same is true of jobs in the computer world. Some 113,000 people will probably be employed in this branch by 1975 but only 0.4 per cent can ever actually expect to work on computers.

These forecasts are more than mere guesswork, based as they are on a thorough examination conducted in the Federal Republic by the Erlangen Institute for Labour Market and Career Research, a department of the Federal Labour Bureau.

The staff of the Institute, the largest research establishment of its type in Western Europe, are already trying to answer questions that will be of decisive importance to tomorrow's labour world.

Will there be enough work for everybody in future? How many new professions can be expected in twenty to thirty years time? What qualities must a worker have if he is to be equal to the demands of future professions?

For many people the rapid advances being made by technological progress represents an element of uncertainty in their career plans. More developments have been made in the last ten years than in the previous two thousand.

Statisticians have calculated that every minute a new chemical formula is discovered somewhere in the world. A new physical association is found every three minutes and an important new discovery made every five minutes.

New inventions, mechanisation, rationalisation and automation certainly exert a pwerful influence on the world of labour.

Many professions will disappear, or at least become far less common, in the course of technological progress. Career researchers, backed by past experience, forecast that the proportion of product-linked occupations will drop considerably.

The number of workers required on farms, down the mines and in branches producing the basic supply of food, clothing, household goods and furniture will drop.

Increases should be registered in planning, construction, production administration, production control and distribution. More workers will also be required in machine construction, repair, overhaul, supervision and control in future.

The service industry sector will also expand, absorbing workers from the productive industries. By 1980 one person in two in this country should be employed in this sector, the career researchers claim. The era of the blue-collar workers is approaching its end as that of the white-collar worker begins.

Of all the service industries prospects are best in health, education, social welfare, advisory bureaux and communications. The same is true of commerce and administration.

Technical innovations only rarely lead to completely new types of jobs. Career researchers forecast that most persons will continue to be employed in the same occupations as exist today. Only one person in eight will be in a completely new job by the year 2000.

Surveys in the United States also demonstrate the extent to which the importance of new jobs is incorrectly assessed, showing that there is no justification for many workers' fears that they will have to change their profession several times during their working life.

The career researchers' forecasts reveal that more importance will have to be attached in future to the changes actually occurring within a profession. It is not new jobs that will characterise the working world of future years but modified old professions.

As a result of fresh technological progress the profession of typesetter for example will be involve different duties in the year 2000 than it does now. By then workers in this branch could well be described as printing technicians instead of typesetters or compositors.

Most workers will no longer be able to learn one particular activity and acquire the necessary specialist knowledge for the job but will be forced to place their training on a broader, more complex basis.

As far as career training is concerned, this requires a more general and more flexible system which will arouse enthusiasm and systematically develop learning ability. Career training must be based more on professions as a whole in future and less on specific occupations.

Anyone desiring professional success in future must satisfy a whole series of important conditions. He must have a high degree of theoretical knowledge, the ability to think logically, analytically, abstractly and critically, to employ st[...] information and to lead others, as well, creativity, mobility, initiative, the willingness to work in a team and mastery [of] planning and the disposition of the means and forces.

The willingness to attend further training courses is becoming increasingly important. Retraining will not be [as] decisive in future as further training [and] constant adaptation to the changing demands imposed by a particular profession.

Qualities such as patience, persistence and the ability to tolerate monotony [will] gradually become important in many professions. The type of worker who comes home at night with a sweat-stained shirt is slowly but surely dying out.

More and more workers are entering occupations which often demand [no] action at all. Loafing is an important qualification for workers who control [and] supervise modern automatic installations.

Workers adapting as early as possible [to] the many demands imposed by to-morrow's working world will certainly minimise the risk of one day being [left] without a job. Career researchers can [not] of course suggest patent solutions [or] guarantee the future of certain professions as there is a limit to the accuracy [of] their forecasts.

They will not be able to prevent [the] planning of the type now affecting [the] teaching profession. They believe [that] only "crass mistakes" in career forecasts will be ruled out.

According to their forecasts, [a] shortage of labour will not be a[...] during the course of the next few years [as] the population is growing more slowly than the number of workers required. Even today it seems to be a safe bet [that] we shall continue to depend on foreign workers in the next twenty or th[irty] years.

The labour shortage will only [be] lessened by one section of the population — the women. Career researchers forecast that they will make greater inroads [into] the world of labour in future.

Dirk Schuber[t]

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 January 19[73])

Experts analyse how to employ increased leisure-time

Professor Bernard Külp and Robert Muller were commissioned by the government to investigate the best method of dividing up the increasing amount of leisure time without impairing overall economic development.

Their 197-page study entitled "Alternative Ways of Using Increasing Leisure Time. Economic and Social Implications" has now been submitted to the Commission for Economic and Social Change and will soon be published in book form.

The Commission was set up two years ago by Chancellor Willy Brandt to investigate problems connected with technological, economic and social change and submit a report for the whole Federal Republic by 1975.

Ten supplementary reports have already been compiled within the framework of this investigation. One of these is the Kulp and Muller study which investigates the professional and leisure-time prospects for 1980 and suggests what they consider the best solution:

· A 41-hour working week, eight weeks holiday a year, a four-week training course every four years (though this can also be distributed over the four years).

· The extension of the voluntary retirement age to the whole of the 60 to 67 age group, meaning that a person can retire at 60 or continue working until the age of 67.

– Ten years compulsory education with half the pupils being given the opportunity to attend secondary schools involving a total period of education of twelve years.

Külp and Müller stress that their study is only a projection. No accurate forecast can be made of the direction that the changes in leisure time will actually follow in the next few years.

Dividing up leisure time depends largely on legislative measures, contractual arrangements, foreign models, personal preferences and many other factors that cannot be forecast in advance.

Külp and Müller state in their study that the amount of leisure time has not only increased over the past hundred years as a result of the shortening of the working week from some eighty to an average of forty hours.

The reduction of the age of retirement to 65, the increase in the period of compulsory education and an average of four weeks' holiday a year have also contributed to the expansion of leisure time.

Külp and Muller consider the increase in leisure time as a diminution of participation in the labour process. Logically, they have to consider the increase in the period of compulsory education as increased leisure time.

The study also concludes that the Federal Republic has neglected education when compared with most other European countries. When the various countries are divided into three groups according to the length of their various types of leisure time, as Külp and Müller do, the Federal Republic is found in the last group where "educational leisure time" is concerned. In other words, the average length of education and further training is somewhat higher in most of the other countries than in the Federal Republic.

But we do have the most holidays, including paid public holidays. As far as the annual amount of leisure time is concerned, the Federal Republic will be found in the first group.

Where the working hours per week and the age of retirement are concerned, the Federal Republic represents a good average, coming in the second group.

These findings could prompt eager educational reformers to use the increase in leisure time in the next few years to expand an individual's education. But Külp and Müller do not agree that this should be done.

In their study they follow the conclusions of American studies and state that two thirds of the annual growth in productivity should be used for increasing incomes and one third for increasing leisure time, though this is rather an optimistic appraisal.

Recent surveys in the United States reveal that Americans would prefer [to] have nine tenths of the increase [in] productivity to flow into their pockets and only one tenth to increase their leisure time.

The study also speaks of an annual productivity rate of 4.4 per cent. The [...] gross national product would then total 699 milliard Marks by 19[80], equivalent to an increase in the per-capita income from an average of 8,496 Marks in 1970 to 11,326 Marks in 1980.

Along with this growth in income there will still be scope for an extension of leisure time. The study claims that [the] working week could be reduced to [...] hours or holidays increased to eleven weeks a year or the age of retirement reduced to 53 or the period of general education extended by five years.

Külp and Müller think it impractical and unworkable to favour one leisure time sector and propose the combined form. They do however give priority [to] education and, apart from improving the basic formal education, attach great importance to extending the system [of] further training, including the introduction of the much-discussed training release.

"Technological and scientific progress devalue educational standards and reduce the adaptability of workers," they claim. "As there is a lot to suggest that [the] speed of progress has increased in recent years, knowledge once acquired quickly loses its value if no attempt is made [to] counteract this aging process by means [of] further training."

Rainer Klo[...]

(Münchner Merkur, 11 January 1973)

■ COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA

TV performers demand greater independence in open letter

Is this country's television service really one of the best in the world, as many observers maintain? Is public ownership the best form for the Federal Republic's television companies?

Many well-known writers, directors, actors, producers and lecturers have sent an open letter to the political parties to present their views on possible alternatives.

The letter largely represents the interests of independent writers, composers, directors, producers, actors, quizmasters, stage designers wardrobe advisers and others in the show business sector. They lament their social position and regret the lack of any firm ties or an old-age pension scheme.

The writers of the letter therefore call for as great a proportion as possible of licence fees (amounting to some 1,800 million Marks in 1972) to be ploughed back into television.

> **ARD** ***(Arbeitsgemeinschaft der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*** **— the federation of public broadcasting institutes in the Federal Republic) was set up in 1950 as a combination of** ***Westdeutscher Rundfunk*** **(WDR),** ***Norddeutscher Rundfunk*** **(NDR),** ***Bayerischer Rundfunk*** **(BR),** ***Hessische Rundfunk*** **(HR),** ***Süddeutsche Rundfunk*** **(SDR),** ***Südwestfunk*** **(SWF),** ***Saarländischer Rundfunk*** **(SR),** ***Radio Bremen*** **(RB) and** ***Sender Freies Berlin*** **(SFB). The stations operate at Federal-state level and their structure is governed by each state's broadcasting regulations. All these broadcasting stations transmit both radio and television programmes. They are publicly-owned non-profit-making organisations.**

They claim that the administration of the broadcasting companies provides a good illustration of Parkinson's Law and state that the largest part and an increasing proportion of licence fees and other sources of income is automatically swallowed up by the apparatus. The outcome could be what they dub "a dynamic increase in licence fees", a form of subsidy for television.

The letter also turns to other issues:

Scaling down company-owned installations: "We also want the principle of free enterprise to be adopted in the sphere of radio and television. The monopoly of State control over the existing publicly-owned companies should be kept down to the minimum required . . .

"Controlling boards should prompt the companies to adopt a free enterprise approach, that is cut costs, when producing their entertainments instead of indulging in an expensive planned economy approach.

"While steps are taken to accomplish this aim, the companies' own enterprises such as copying, synchronisation and studio ventures and production groups which are expensive for the entertainment sphere and unprofitable in integrational practice should be scaled down step by step or taken out of the general framework and exposed to free competition."

Realistic priorities: "As a result of financial bottlenecks, especially before licence fees are raised further, as we advocate on the principle that the fees should be brought into line with the given market situation, restrictions and other economy measures must be made first of all in the spheres of technology, which is not being used to capacity, and the often bloated administration, before turning to the duties of the company and the programmes themselves, and not in the reverse order.

"We have not forgotten that the first increase in licence fees was achieved by making the dramatic announcement that broadcasting would be restricted, though after this move was successful the additional funds raised were not largely used for programmes."

More competition: "The companies should also act on a free enterprise and competitive basis among themselves. They should compete amongst themselves as is now the case, though only to a certain degree, between ARD and ZDF.

"In the long term it is not advisable to have a state of affairs in which the non-organised groups of independent workers are faced by one or two blocs of employers who form a kind of monopoly for their own benefit and to the detriment of all those who make their programmes."

Merge the third programmes and turn them into an independent unit: "To make the commissions for workers employed in producing programmes more varied and, as a result, more in line with market demands, we recommend that the third TV programmes should be taken out of the ARD framework and merged.

"The view of the ARD companies before the start of third programme transmissions that these broadcasts could be made by employing the surplus of existing personnel and means has proved erroneous."

Other independent television broadcasts: "Any further publicly-owned companies, such as local television stations, are to be built up outside the existing structure for the same reasons.

"Federal state monopolies are also to be ruled out for reasons of competition. The Federal states' broadcasting laws should contain no monopoly clauses. The existing ARD companies should comply with the law and carry out their federalist function far more than they have in the past."

Objective discussions on privately-owned independent television: "The problem of private radio and private television should be discussed objectively by groups and assessors independent of the companies, without emotions or attacks against those supporting the idea.

"Nobody in the Federal Republic wants the same situation as in America. This is not possible anyway as we have had a publicaly-owned television service here for years and there is no exemption from licence fees in this country as there is in the United States.

"But there are notable examples of independent television companies in democratic countries whose democratic understanding cannot be rated as less than ours, in Britain for instance . . .

Reform of the companies' controlling apparatus: "People should no longer claim unrestrictedly in future that the system of public ownership has proved its worth. The companies' controlling apparatus has become more needy of overhaul as the years have passed.

"It is now far from clear which 'socially relevant groups' are justifiably or unjustifiably represented on the various committees. Party politics are openly practised in the broadcasting committees and within the companies themselves right down to the departmental heads — and all parties are involved . . .

The last paragraph of the letter claims that the accumulation of power is a source of danger in any democratic system, even the concentration of indirect State power.

"Radio and television in the Federal Republic doubtlessly represents a preponderance of power in the cultural sphere — if only because of the milliards of Marks it spends on commissioning works — and its administrators could succumb to the danger of dictating the laws of the art market.

"It must also be considered whether concentration in other branches of the mass media is not the natural market reaction to this concentration of semi-official power. It appears contradictory to prevent this type of development in the private sphere while encouraging it in the public sector." The letter is signed by 153 free-lance staff members.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 24 January 1973)

Newspaper owners plead for State aid

The Federal Newspaper Publishers Association (BDZV) has called for extensive State aid in view of increasing concentration in the press and what it describes as the ever-increasing danger threatening the solid economic basis of the dailies.

A memorandum on the economic state of daily newspapers has been issued by the Newspaper Publishers Association and it claims that a varied, economically healthy and therefore independent daily press could only be preserved if the causes of the trend towards concentration were recognised and combated with adequate though constitutional means.

The BDZV proposes:

1. No value added tax on profits deriving from the distribution of newspapers.
2. Permission to accumulate non-taxable reserves and the concession of (State) allowances for investment.
3. Lower fees for newspaper distribution and the transmission of news.
4. Credits for larger newspapers too.
5. A standardised old age pensions system for all full-time workers and editorial staff in all the mass media.

The publishers believe that the main cause of concentration is the steady rise in costs. Subscription rates for newspapers have lagged behind the general price spiral as they must be kept as low as possible in the interests of public information.

Comparisons of a representative sample of sixty independent dailies with local or regional distribution since 1952 illustrate the unfavourable economic trends in the press. Profits have been falling since 1969. In 1971 the surplus per monthly copy amounted to only 0.33 Marks compared with 0.77 Marks in 1968.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 30 January 1973)

VÖLKISCHER BEOBACHTER

ORIGINAL-NACHDRUCK 30.1.1933

Reprint of 1933 Nazi newspaper

Readers could not believe their eyes recently when they went along to their local newsagents and found freshly-printed copies of the northern edition of the *Völkischer Beobachter*, the newspaper of the "Greater German National Socialist Movement."

"An Historic Day. First Measures of Hitler's Government," the headline read. The leading article was entitled "The Foundation Stone of the Third Reich." A brown-shirted Adolf Hitler covers two columns, his gaze leading the reader to the left and two photographs of Minister of the Interior Wilhelm Frick and Reich Minister Hermann Goering.

The Orbis Verlag, Gutersloh, a publishing house specialising in journalism, has started a series of reprints. It also provides a commentary in the same format. The fortieth anniversary of Hitler's take-over of power was a fitting start. And what could illustrate the events of that day better than the *Völkischer Beobachter* of 31 January 1933.

It cost two Marks to read what the *Völkischer Beobachter* thought newsworthy. The crude agitation was found elsewhere in the paper. "Flight of the Jews and Racketeers will soon end!" was the headline of a report on page two.

The national upsurge has begun, the article reported, everything would soon be in order within the German household and the parasites were trying to escape through every possible hole. "But it will soon end!"

A few lines further down on the same page *Völkischer Beobachter* reports of what it describes as furious threats by the Social Democratic newspaper *Vorwärts*, adding that this sort of language will probably do it no good in the long run!

The man in the street may have dismissed this with a shrug at the time but these promises were kept days, weeks or months later. The left-wing journalists did not benefit at all from their outbursts and they landed in the dungeons of the SA.

The German Jews were no longer given the opportunity of leaving their homeland and they eventually ended up in the gas chambers. The commentary points out that Hitler had established himself as dictator by the summer of that year and twelve years later Germany was no more than a torso and Europe a heap of rubble.

Reprinting this issue of the *Völkischer Beobachter* has been worthwhile, even if the Orbis Verlag may not make a profit on it. Refreshing one's memory cannot do the older generation any harm and turning history into something alive can only benefit the young. Newspapers are historical documents after all.

Hans-Peter Sattler

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 January 1973)

■ FISHERIES

Cod conference must be called and soon

Lübecker Nachrichten

Cod seems to have become a symbol of conflict in Europe. It took on a political significance of great import in the not too distant past when it was put forward as one of the main reasons for Norway's non-entry into the EEC.

Now Europe's fishing nations are fighting another battle over the fish, against Iceland, which has extended its coastal waters from twelve to fifty nautical miles.

It is similar to the fight between the settlers and the Red Indians on the prairies of North America in the last century, though the Cod War is perhaps not so dramatic. Nonetheless there have already been nearly two dozen serious incidents involving British and West German trawlers on the one hand and Icelandic patrol boats on the other.

Many people probably though at first this matter was a none-too-serious difference of opinion between countries that were after all allies. But trawler captains and seamen have a different tale to tell.

One seaman on a Federal Republic trawler was seriously injured when a trawl wire was cut and snapped back hitting him on the head. Governments are reacting to this matter speedily and with great urgency.

Britain has sent a tug to protect British trawlers off Iceland, and Bonn is at present holding discussions with the four coastal states Hamburg, Bremen, Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein which may lead to a boycott of Icelandic shipping in our harbours.

The fishing dispute has even penetrated into the Kiel Oceanographic Institute where a group of 46 scientists has come out on the side of Iceland. The Director of the Institute promptly dismissed this attitude as "unscientific" and called it a "private political campaign".

Indeed emotions are becoming inflamed and tending to cloud the economic and legalistic heart of the issue. There has long been a danger of modern trawlers with all the latest catching and processing equipment on board overfishing the seas.

Reykjavik may claim to have increased its territorial waters from twelve to fifty miles because it was worried that the once so rich stocks of cod, herring, haddock and rock salmon would be exhausted, but this claim must be seen against the background of Iceland's total economic dependence on fishing.

In 1967/68 the amounts landed declined rapidly. Iceland's GNP dropped by eleven per cent and the national income of the more than 200,000 Icelanders declined by as much as sixteen per cent.

This traumatic experience on the part of the Icelanders makes the barriers they have tried to throw up around their prize fishing grounds seem like a highly defensive measure to protect their livelihood. But it cannot possibly justify the illegal attacks on British and German trawlers.

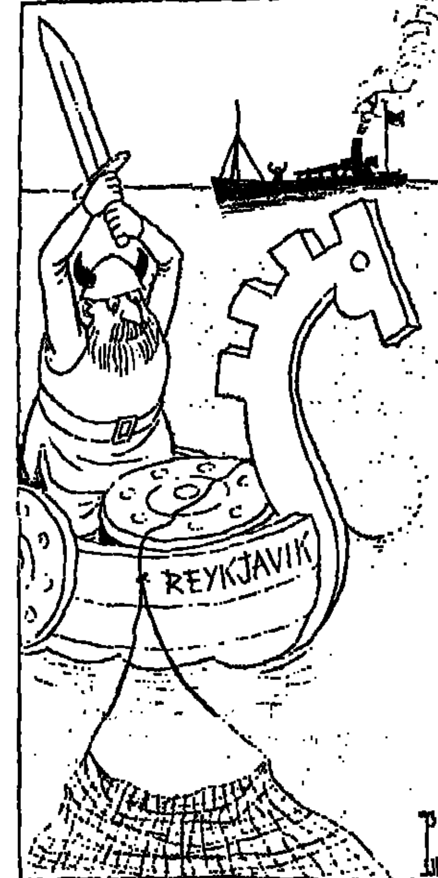
Strictly speaking the Icelandic attacks are verging on piracy, according to the terms of Article 15 of the Geneva agreement on the High Seas of 1958.

And Reykjavik is again acting illegally if it refuses to submit to the decision of the international court in The Hague and will not accept the interim judgment that has already been made.

At the moment no solution to the problem appears to be in sight. In fact with boycotts here and piracy there it seems likely that the conflict will be aggravated. The violence could snowball and put an end to the willingness to talk that was recently expressed.

It is dubious whether a bilateral

Continued on page 7



(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Vorwärts)

Jam eaters

Last year West Germans consumed about 108,000 tons of spreads, according to investigations carried out by the Society for Consumer, Market and Sales Research (GFK) Nuremberg. Of these jams and marmalades were the most popular, taking up about fifty per cent of the whole. One third was honey and chocolate and nut spreads are now on the up and up, having cornered ten per cent of the market in spreads.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 24 January 1973)

Fishing industry is in for a few changes

Federal Republic fisheries are at present going through far-reaching structural changes, according to the deputy business manager of the Fisheries Marketing Institute (FIMA) at a press conference held in Berlin at Green Week. The reason for these changes, he said, was that there had been an international decline in catches of the more common fish as a result of over-fishing and that consumers in the Federal Republic were showing an excessive predilection for ruff and fish fillets.

In addition to this the search for new fishing grounds was proving to be a costly business on top of the general explosive rise in costs in recent years.

He said that rationalisation and mechanisation both in trawling methods and preparation of the catch had helped to keep fish a relatively cheap form of protein, even though it was no longer the "cheap Friday supper". But the industry was having to go in more and more for deep frozen fish and this required higher investments and a higher level of capital. He explained that an unfortunate misunderstanding had arisen between coastal firms and fish buyers and another decisive factor was that the Bundesbahn (Federal Railways) had stopped the special prices for fish transport and had thus forced many fisheries out of business because they could no longer market fish at a competitive price. Needless to say, another factor that has dogged Federal Republic fisheries is the extension by Iceland of its territorial waters from twelve to fifty nautical miles.

Sixty per cent of this country's fish requirements are caught in this zone. The Icelandic ban on trawling in these waters had made fishing more difficult and expensive.

The Federal Republic, with its limited coastline, could not meet its fish requirements entirely by imports from neighbouring countries, either, as these were limited.

He said that deep frozen fish was not proving so problematical, but here again this country was dependent on ships fishing off Iceland.

But people in the fishery business are not discouraged. Consumer demand is rising and this should make it possible to market less well-known fish such as mackerel, pilchards and sea-pike. FIMA plans this year to give a boost to the sales side of the industry with a sales promotional campaign.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 18 January 1973)



Dutch cheeses for Green Week
(Photo: Landesbildstelle Berlin)

1,200 firms represented at this year's Green Week

International Green Week is a central attraction for about half a million visitors from all over the world and has been for years the highlight of all the fairs and exhibitions in Germany's biggest industrial city, Berlin.

In all its complexity it is the most important exhibition for the agricultural sector, gardening and food in Europe. And the events staged on the periphery of "Grüne Woche" provide an important meeting place for agricultural experts from at home and abroad.

Founded in 1926 Green Week has remained true to its traditions, and despite the changes in the situation in Berlin since the War it has if anything taken on greater tasks and duties. Today it presents itself as an international "common market" in the widest sense of the expression.

It fills 23 halls and a few pavilions scattered around the television tower. The floor area has been increased through the years and this year about 1,200 firms from 46 countries and all five continents exhibited their wares in Berlin.

The "green core" of the exhibition which the organisers are keen to concentrate was expressed successfully in a number of special exhibitions for experts. One of these was the Agriculture, Forestry and Food Ministry's special show "From Meadow to Milk-Churn", the special "Modern Sheep Farm" exhibition staged by the Berlin Farmers Association. This, together with the cattle exhibition staged by West German breeders associations, may have given interesting new ideas even to experts.

The unique variety of Green Week can be seen in the vast amount of space devoted to the theme of marketing produce. It is here that we really see the international nature of the fair. Federal Republic farmers produced their "shop window for the German states" exhibition organised by CMA, agriculture's Central Marketing Association. With this show our farmers issued a challenge to our friendly rivals in the EEC and to producers who would like to enter the Federal Republic market.

Fifty-five per cent of households in this country consist of only one or two people and one of CMA's latest recommendations is a greater emphasis on smaller portions of foodstuffs, as opposed to the family economy size.

Most of the 45 overseas countries organised a joint show of all their produce, while others are represented by importers or individual exhibitors. Countries taking part for the first time are Sri Lanka (Ceylon), the Dominican Republic, Eire and Rumania.

CMA has devised the slogan: "Buy German products and enjoy all Nature's bounty" to try to persuade more people in this country and abroad to enjoy our produce. Our attitude is of fair and friendly competitiveness with the Common Market, explained Count Rothkirch, the CMA business manager.

As the importance of Green Week grows so does that of the peripheral events with the numerous international conferences, meetings and specialist lectures. During the ten days of the exhibition 175 such events were organised.

These events include highly specialised and technical conferences on topics such as "the chemico-technological possibilities of milk proteins" and generalised topics such as bridging the gap of understanding between town and country.

As a lead-in to Green Week Berlin held the 6th Agriculture Policy Information Meeting of EEC Countries, which dealt with further developments following the Paris Summit.

Peter Schmidt

(Deutsche Zeitung, 26 January 1973)

■ ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Threats from home and abroad to traditional German hotels

DIE ZEIT

American hoteliers have broken into the hotel business in the Federal Republic in a big way, and now there is a threat of a similar invasion from Britain. At the turn of the year our hoteliers were startled by the news that Europe's biggest brewery Bass-Charrington is to break into the hotel business on the European mainland.

In a coup that was carried out in the strictest secrecy the American oil company Exxon, formerly standard oil of New Jersey, took over the Esso-Motor-Hotel chain. They paid about 190 million Marks for a total of seventeen hotels in Britain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy and France. The Esso-Motor-Hotels in West Germany (nine) and Austria (one) are to be leased to the British.

Herbert Rütten, the representative of international hoteliers in the Deutscher Hotel und Gaststättenverband (Dehoga), is not keen to view the change of hands of the Esso hotels as a symptom of an impending invasion of British hotel concerns in this country. He prefers to regard it as bearing out his theory that foreigners tend to invest in this country without having made a sufficient survey of the state of the market. For, as Herbert Rütten said, "who is going to sell a concern that is operating in the black and giving a good yield? "

But he is not quite certain what is behind the latest moves. In fact hoteliers in Britain unlike those in this country have reacted to he challenge of the Americans. Adventurous hotel building projects by British concerns are under way in Britain.

As the European Economic Community expands so these concerns will have to expand their activities on the European mainland, the British economics paper *The Financial Times* states. After all British businessmen will be conducting more business in Europe in future. British hoteliers will want to profit from the business travel boom.

Prospects for expansion on the European mainland are good. The first of the major caterers to announce cross-Channel plans was Lyons. This concern has already put its foot in the European door ith its "Wimpy" quick hamburger bars. Lyons now plans to set up a chain of so-called middle-price-range hotels on the European mainland.

Other hotel giants that are casting their eyes in this direction are Grand Metropolitan Hotels and Trust Houses Forte.

The British hoteliers are in a better financial position than their West German counterparts. Lyons, GMH and THF, like Bass-Charrington, do not rely simply and solely on filling hotel beds for their income. Lyons is heavily involved in catering, with a tinned-meat concern in The Netherlands and a pasta concern in Italy among other ventures under its wing.

GMH is the largest shareholder in the Watney-Mann brewery, which has a series of pubs all over Europe.

But the traditional hotels in this country are also under fire from within our borders. Recently Josef Schörghuber, the head of a Munich building firm and proprietor of Germanair, the second largest charter airline in his country, celebrated the laying of the foundation of a new hotel in Frankfurt. Schörghuber has what most West German hoteliers lack – sufficient capital to build modern hotels.

He is planning to build a chain of hotels that will bear the name of his four year-old daughter Arabella. Apart from the Frankfurt Arabella with 700 beds, being built at a cost of forty million Marks another eighteen-million-Mark hotel is on the stocks in Cologne-Porz.

The largest and most expensive hotel of the new group is planned for Bonn-Bad Godesberg. There Schörghuber is investing seventy million Marks in a combined hotel and apartment block.

Kai D. Eichstädt

(Die Zeit, 19 January 1973)

Large lorry contract from Soviet Union

A contract worth about 400 million Marks for the Kama lorry factory in the Soviet Union has recently been completed after months of negotiations with Liebherr Verzahntechnik (Kempten) and Karl Hüller Limited (Ludwigsburg). The deal was signed in Moscow.

Liebherr, representing a further 47 firms involved in this deal, stated that the contract is for the supply of machine tools and plant. The contract covers 1,200 pieces of machinery in all, and in a second phase of developments a further 800 pieces of machinery will be produced in conjunction with Soviet firms.

According to Dr Karl Schwiegelshohn, the business manager of Liebherr, the Kama factory will be receiving the most up-to-date machine tools for lorry manufacture in the world.

Financing of this venture has been accepted by five Federal Republic banks. Payments will be made over more than five years.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 11 January 1973)

Continued from page 6

agreement with Iceland and a rational demarcation of interests is possible to achieve without imposing catch quotas on all fishing nations and taking worldwide protective measures against over-fishing in areas where the marine life is gravely endangered.

Moreover the fishing dispute with Iceland is a symptom of a deeper-lying structural crisis in international relations and an increasing uncertainty about the rights that prevail on the High Seas.

The "freedom of the seas" that has been defended for 300 years has been greatly undermined recently by the growing claims of countries to the waters that surround them. The competition to grab the riches of the seas has become part of big industry.

A conference must be called to decide just who owns what in the oceans and all countries bordering on disputed waters must be represented. If this conference were organised on a scrupulously fair international basis the two sides in the Icelandic fishing dispute would not be able to contest its findings.

Hartmut Tetsch

(Lubecker Nachrichten, 24 January 1973)

■ MOTORING

Research institute examines public distaste for seat belts

"Many people have visions of unconscious motorists fastened to their seats with flames fanning at their feet or the entire vehicle ablaze, a funeral pyre," DelBerg Institute psychologist G. Bliersbach of Cologne notes by way of explanation of the strong dislike many motorists have of the safety belt.

The institute was commissioned by the Federal Road Research Institute to conduct motivational studies to determine why, despite ample acquaintanceship with the safety benefits, motorists disregard the safety belt to an alarming, indeed astonishing degree.

Even among motorists whose cars are fitted out with safety belts (not at present compulsory in this country) 42 per cent associate the belt with visions of death and disfigurement. The corresponding figure for non-owners of safety belts is as high as 77 per cent.

"This," says Herr Bliersbach, "emerged as one of the most surprising results of our study. For most drivers of private cars the safety belt would be better called the 'unsafety belt'. Instead of lessening anxiety it gives rise to anxiety by always having to be fastened."

Most motorists feel fastening their safety belts to be an ominous act of fettering themselves, the Cologne psychologists conclude, the ominous factor being the way in which it nips in the bud the natural attempt to avoid danger by making a quick getaway.

This the belted motorist is unable to do. The mere knowledge that his car is fitted out with safety belts and that he has fastened or ought to fasten them represents a continual reminder of the risks faced in road traffic.

What is more, the driver is fastened to his seat and can neither beat a quick retreat when the need arises nor minimise the dangers he may have to face.

In fastening safety belts motorists are always reminded of the possibility of an accident, the very likelihood on which they never really reckon, particularly as they tend to feel that the prospect is somehow rendered more remote by the fact of their using safety belts.

This, then, motivational study reveals, is what makes fastening safety belts so unpleasant for so many motorists. Belts are not an inconspicious safety precaution: they focus attention on the danger that is to be averted.

The upshot, psychologists explain, is a considerable degree of anxiety. Safety belts are thus an extremely expensive protective device for the psyche. They paint the dangers of traffic in glaring colours, call to mind suppressed anxiety and call for the pros to be weighed against the cons.

Private motorists do not want to be reminded of the calamities that might befall them on the roads. They prefer to sidetrack the issue and accordingly decide not to bother with safety belts.

Fastening safety belts is always felt to be irksome, not to say too much like hard work. Motorists are frequently faced with the decision whether or not to fasten them: often enough they decide to leave the belt in its socket.

Even drivers who are careful to remember to go to the trouble regularly weaken. They have to force themselves to keep up the habit. They never get entirely used to the idea.

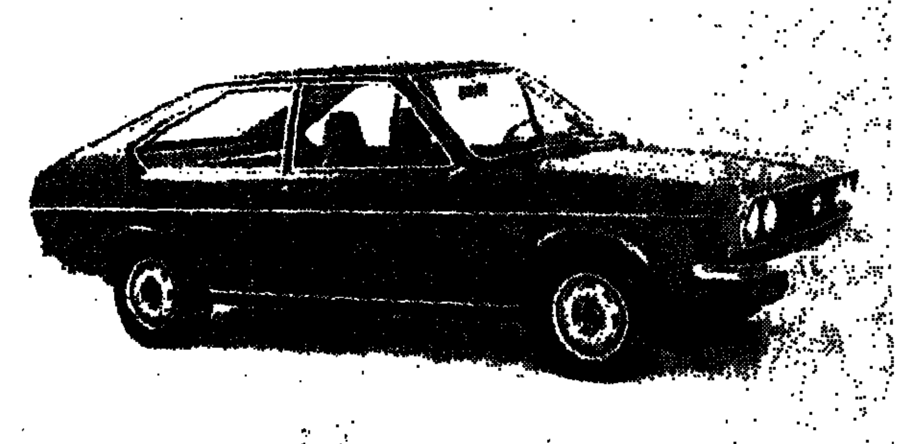
"Drivers never grow accustomed to fastening their safety belts," psychologists report. "They merely accustom themselves to the continual nuisance of going to the trouble." Ninety-five per cent of belt-owners mention the nuisance fastening safety belts can be!

It has long been common knowledge that there are any number of conscious arguments and unconscious reservations against the safety belt. Professor Walter Schneider of Cologne University listed them as long ago as 1962.

A survey conducted among accident specialists, who themselves were well aware of the advantages of safety belts, revealed an emotional dislike of belts. The DelBerg study uncovers new and deeper-seated motives behind the rejection of this invaluable safety precaution.

Alfred Zerban

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 January 1973)



The new Volkswagen EA 400 (Photo: dpa)

New VW will not replace Beetle

Nordwest Zeitung

Volkswagen's new EA 400 will not, despite speculation, replace the Beetle, the company insists. According to VW the new model, which is due to be premiered at this year's Frankfurt motor show, will be no more than an addition to the Volkswagen range.

Volkswagen have released the first works photo of the new model, which appears to be a compact family saloon. Apart from a broad, sloping rear window it would seem to have much in common with the Audi 80.

It will be available in two- and four-door versions and boast a water-cooled engine mounted in front along with front-wheel drive.

A choice of three engines will be available but Volkswagen are not prepared at the present juncture to disclose further technical data.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 19 January 1973)

100-kph limit has had little effect

Münchner Merkur

Few infringements of the new speed limit of 100 kilometres an hour (62 mph) on trunk and country roads other than autobahns have so far been reported. This, Automobilclub von Deutschland (AvD), the Frankfurt-based No. 2 among motoring organisations in the Federal Republic, maintains, only goes to show how unnecessary the regulation is.

According to the AvD the majority of motorists have driven as fast or as slow as they did beforehand since the introduction of the speed limit on 1 October 1972. Motorists have seldom exceeded and seldom exceed 100 kilometres an hour on country roads, the club commented.

They tend to drive too fast in built-up areas, the club added, and it is in towns and villages along these roads that seventy per cent of accidents involving injury to life and limb occur.

(Münchner Merkur, 22 January 1973)

Hit-and-run driving

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

Otherwise law-abiding housewives run over and kill innocent pedestrians and drive off fast and furiously to leave them to their fates. Well-to-do businessmen have minor set-tos with other vehicles while manoeuvring out of parking-lots and drive off smartly without leaving even a note under the windscreen wiper blade of the unfortunate victim. Drunken drivers beat a hasty retreat after a collision regardless of the damage caused.

These and similar occurrences are run-of-the-mill between the North Sea and the Alps but the statistics departments of the Federal and state governments are unable to supply detailed figures of hit-and-run accidents because the hit-and-run category is not evaluated as an accident cause.

This makes the figures just released by Frankfurt police all the more interesting. Frankfurt roads are busier than those of any other city in the Federal Republic and the 1972 figures are completely detailed.

They accurately reflect the true state of affairs. Out of 16,000 full-scale accidents (minor dents requiring a mere modicum of panel-beating were not included among this figure) the guilty drivers hit and ran in 4,067 cases. In other words hit-and-run drivers were responsible for one serious accident in four last year.

Between them they notched up a number of injuries, several deaths and roughly nine million Marks' worth of damage to property in Frankfurt alone last year.

In order to put the general public in the picture and to help stem the tide of hit-and-run accidents Frankfurt's police ran a one-week campaign in January with the slogan "Hit and run does not pay." The police also emphasised that it was by no means a trivial offence.

Quite apart from the frequently frightful position of the victim or his next of kin, a hit-and-run driver, providing he is caught, stands to lose his driving licence, to be sentenced to a term of imprisonment and to have to foot the entire bill because his insurance refuses to pay a penny.

The chances of a hit-and-run case not being solved are fairly slender. An average of two out of three offenders are brought to book by the law.

Specially trained police officers all over the country are equipped with both the latest technical aids and their own "sixth sense" based on experience in dealing with cases of this kind.

They work in conjunction with garages and also keep an eye on the smaller one-man firms in back yards. Often enough a few fragments of paint or a single splinter of plastic from a rear indicator are sufficient to track down the offender.

Driving under the influence of drink is the most frequent cause of hit-and-run offences. In four cases out of ten the driver of the hit-and-run vehicle was under the influence at the time of the accident. Hit-and-run offences are particularly frequent at night and over the weekend.

A number of specialists do maintain that unstable and inconsiderate characters are particularly liable to hit and run but most forensic scientists are of the opinion that there is no special type of person particularly likely to commit this kind of offence. Were the appropriate circumstances to arise anyone could do it.

Albert Bechtold

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 20 January 1973)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Name . . . .

Subscription Number . . . .

Effective Date of Change . . . .

Old Address . . . .

. . . .

Zip Code . . . .

New Address . . . .

. . . .

Zip Code . . . .

Send to: THE GERMAN TRIBUNE · FRIEDRICH REINECKE VERLAG GMBH
23 Schöne Aussicht, 2 Hamburg 76 · Federal Republic of Germany

■ WRITING

Writers Association finally decides to unionise

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

A sense of solidarity appears to have seized what is usually considered a profession of loners. The Writers Association has finally decided to form a subsection of the Printing and Paper Workers Trade Union.

Supporters of this alliance of brain and manual workers have dubbed it the event of the century. Opponents, including the Bavarian Independent Writers Association, suspect it as political and intellectual harakiri.

Both sceptics and advocates are swayed by emotion. Working-class romanticism and the poetic ivory tower each have their traditions, the "Literature in the Working World" group is jubilant while those "free writers" who insist on the creative loneliness of the outsider feel as though they have lost something. Indeed, they feel as if they have been sold down the river. Time will tell which side is right.

The clearest factor of the whole situation is its basis – the hardly tolerable social position of most authors, ignoring the few bestselling writers. Mergers in the world of press and publishing lead to a reduction in the opportunities offered them.

High-class literature is forced out on to the periphery of the market and writers are often happy when they do not have to contribute money of their own to get their works printed.

The tax authorities classify writers as manufacturers with the result that they have to pay added value tax. Provisions for their old age and possible sickness are inadequate.

Writers gain little profit on paperbacks, publishers commissioning their works make arbitrary changes in the text and advertising concentrates on the few best-selling works.

The Writers Association's entry into a trade union is to a large extent the result of the pessimism and anger with which writers see their position today. But can a trade union save them?

The Writers Association was able to press home its demand for a royalty on library books without any trade union support. The abolition of value added tax for writers could also be achieved without the help of the trade union.

What then is the point of joining a trade union? And, on the other hand, what benefit do the 150,000 members of the Printing and Paper Workers Trade Union derive from having three thousand writers in their ranks?

Dieter Lattmann and his men are mainly concerned about the normal employer-employee contracts. Striking authors could only exert pressure if members of the printing and allied trades also struck. This would depend on the proposed system of reciprocal solidarity actually functioning – any number of clashes of interest can however be imagined.

Writers must want their books to be priced as cheaply as possible to improve sales. But if their colleagues in the printing and paper trades strike for higher wages, this means under a free enterprise system that both production costs and retail prices will increase. An author expressing solidarity with the workers will be supporting the strike against his own economic and, probably, cultural interests.

The trade union on the other hand is gaining more than it can lose. Supported by the penetrating prose and prestige of prominent writers like Grass, Böll and Lenz, it should be able to present its demands to the public more effectively than is now the case. The trade unions' cultural activities could also be helped out of their modest existence with these writers' help.

More power for the intellect, more intellect for the trade unions. At their



Writers Association leader Dieter Lattmann addressing the Hamburg conference (Photo: …)

meeting in Hamburg two completely different sections of the community decided not only to seek and champion common interests but also to learn from each other – a welcome feature.

As long as there is a spirit of true partnership in this alliance, nobody need fear that bothersome deviators will be disciplined on the grounds of ideological solidarity.

Forced unity would not lead to greater strength. It could only mean the death of what is after all a profession of loners. Dieter Lattmann, head of the Writers Association realises this and promises: "Only our social and legal demands are to be organised, not the content of creative work."

But because variety in literature is only to be desired, there do seem to be problems attached to the fact that the writing profession will be aligned to a certain political camp in future.

The writers' entry into the Printing and Paper Workers Trade Union is only meant as the first step towards the formation of a trade union covering all the media.

Indeed, a large trade union covering all "cultural workers" would probably be more sensible than the present state of affairs under which the estimated hundred thousand writers, singers, musicians and artists are represented by a number of professional associations affiliated in turn to the white-collar workers union or loose organisations such as the Federal Association of Creative Artists. Unfortunately, the step taken by the writers has not ended the previous confusion.

The proposed "Printing, Paper and Media Trade Union" would depend on large-scale administrative reform within the Trades Union Confederation. Even if this were to succeed, there is still the question whether such a large trade union would function correctly.

This union would comprise such varying professions as writers, craft artists, journalists, translators, graphic designers, film directors, actors, photographers, composers, cartoonists, film producers, printers, binders, paper manufacturers, hack writers and the authors of recipe books and scientific literature.

Can their interests be reduced to a common denominator?

But despite all doubts, intellectuals have at last stopped looking at powerlessness as a feature of distinction. This is a step forward even though the final goal is not yet known.

Mathias Schreiber

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 January 1973)

Report on the financial position of the young author today

At the age of 23 in January 1922 Bertolt Brecht was brought to the Charité in Berlin suffering from malnutrition. Recently 28 year-old Rainer Werner Fassbinder hit the headlines of the gossip columns because of his penchant for driving and occasionally pranging fast, expensive cars.

In 1929 Bert Brecht also managed to get himself a car. It was a Steyrwagen and was offered in payment to him for his poem *Singende Steyrwagen* by the firm.

Up till a few years ago it was considered uncivilised to talk of writers and money. But following Böll's announcement of the end of such modesty on the formation of the Verband Deutscher Schriftsteller in 1969 in Cologne and the authors report by Karla Fohrbeck and Andreas J. Wiesand this taboo seems to have finally been broken down completely.

This report took a good look into the wallets of old and elderly writers. But what do young authors earn?

One of the youngest authors who did not make any secret of his financial situation was Peter O. Chotjewitz. In the magazine *Merkur* he wrote: "Report on Section B3, line 21 of the income tax declaration of Peter O. Chotjewitz for the year 1967 – Jan. to Sept."

There we can read: "On 3 March 1967, advance payment for the novel *Die Insel Erzählungen auf dem Bärenauge* – 400 Marks. On 9 March fee for freelance lecturing – 600 Marks. On 1 March a payment of 180 Marks from Hesse Radio for freelance work, in the end not completed. On 6 March payment for a lengthy newspaper article 191.40 Marks . . ."

On the expenses side of this tax form we see Chotjewitz claims 600 Marks for books essential to this work, for travel necessitated by his work and for large telephone bills.

The last part of this text reads: 12,630 Marks and 25 Pfennigs earnt, minus 8,318 Marks and 56 Pfennigs expenses equals 4,321.69 Marks.

Angelika Mechtel stood on just as little ceremony over her earnings: "Usually my day is something like this: six hours of housework, six hours on my professional work, sometimes more." Her balance sheet for a month: "Each week in September saw me working on average ninety hours. My in-comings were 500 Marks as an advance on my book, 1,500 Marks as an advance for my film. And that was, financially, a pretty good month."

The earnings of young authors are not so low that they live on the breadline. But one must take into account that they have to take charge of their own social security, that they have no claim to a paid holiday, no child welfare, no extra month's pay and no Christmas bonus.

From what Chotjewitz and Mechtel say it is clear that the idea of the classical writer, who has a novel out once in every three years at the big book fairs does not stand up – no one could live on the proceeds.

For this reason young writers work for radio and television, they write essays and reviews of other authors. They are part and parcel of the hectic literary world, and the old idea of a demarcation line between the creative author and the recipient publishing world is gone.

The situation is unstable and creates a state of dependence, and young authors are much more aware of this than the older ones, who take on an air of independence, selecting at will their abode, their working timetable and the subjects of their work frequently.

They are fooling themselves and trying to hide their lack of independence from themselves. Writers are dependent on readers, editors, and critics and they in turn are dependent on publishers, broadcasting councils and local governments.

The idea of the kindly old publisher and patron who invites the young, unworldly and hungry poet to a meal is passé. The freelance writer has never really been free. Karl Marx wrote … years ago: "The hypocrisy of the … society has fallen away completely and been relieved by relationships expressed purely in terms of money. Likewise so-called higher works, spiritual, art and the like have been turned into articles of trade and have thus lost their former holiness."

Of the 1,700 writers interviewed by the Spiegel Institut 220 were between the ages of twenty and thirty. The number who live from what they write without any other work was surprisingly high among these young writers as compared with those of more advanced years.

Of course many of them are … beginning to try to make their living as freelance. The transition from social-outcast-student to social-outcast-writer is often made without a hiatus. Fifty … per cent of these young writers said they would like to change their status and … per cent entertained the idea of getting …

Continued on page 11

■ LITERATURE

Decision on Dortmund archives must be reached soon

VORWÄRTS

An international atmosphere hung over the Archives for Working-Class Writings and Social Literature in Dortmund recently. A British student from Birmingham wanted information on the slogans chanted in the twenties and thirties. A German student was researching into the working-class literature of France.

A French student from Paris was interested in any workers' memoirs that have been published in this country. A professor from a college in Philadelphia studied documents on proletarian revolutionary literature and the workers' theatre of the twenties.

A girl student from Cracow, Poland, sifted through the files for her dissertation on the way workers are depicted in modern literature. Professors and students from Norway and Sweden had also intended to conduct research there but their applications were refused because of the shortage of space.

These archives which have proved so attractive to scholars from both home and abroad are the first of their type in Europe. They are largely the work of Fritz Hüser, 64, the head of Dortmund municipal library.

Fifteen years ago Hüser made his own specialist collection available to the public. He had been maintaining it out of his own pocket and had started collecting documents at the age of seventeen.

Since then the archives have been used by academics and scholars from all over the world, usually to obtain documents and material for talks, dissertations, and books on working-class literature.

Scholars from Britain and America display the greatest interest in Hüser's archives which contain a variety of nineteenth and twentieth-century working-class and social literature from both home and abroad (primary and secondary literature), proletarian revolutionary literature from the Weimar Republic era, books by members of the Writing Workers Movement in the German Democratic Republic and publications by members of the *Gruppe 61* in Dortmund.

Most of the collection is arranged alphabetically according to author but unfortunately there is no catalogue of authors and subjects. The archives contains some ten thousand books, letters, anthologies, manuscripts, works of reference, monographs, biographies, published and unpublished dissertations, readers and annuals, clippings from newspapers and periodicals, photocopies, microfilms and the estate of such writers as Ernst Preczang and Heinrich Lersch.

Hüser has spent almost fifty years collecting books, documents and essays dealing with worker education and workers' theatres, subjects such as the depiction of work and workers in literature and the creative arts, the worker and the world of labour in school readers, socialism and culture, the history and literature of the proletarian youth movement, Man and labour and Man and technology, sometimes in the form of reports and sociological surveys.

Fritz Hüser divides the history of German working-class literature into four generations of writers between the beginnings of the movement about one hundred years ago and its demise with the accession of Adolf Hitler to power in 1933. The archives contain the collected works of many of these writers.

Hüser keeps in contact with some one hundred second-hand book shops both at home and abroad in order to add regularly to his literary collection. The archives, the birthplace of the Gruppe 61 movement and an advice centre for working-class writers, also obtains new books from private sources, legacies and the exchange of duplicated material.

Research centres for working-class literature have also been opened in other European countries during the past few years but they are still in their infancy. This applies to the centre in Amsterdam and the "Clearing Office for Worker Education and Literature" set up in Graz by the Austrian Cultural Policy Society. Archives for working-class literature on the Dortmund pattern are also planned for Britain and France.

In January 1970 Hüser offered to hand his private collection over to the city of Dortmund as a foundation. This meant that the city's librarians could reclassify the material and compile a catalogue.

Members of the Dortmund Council's cultural affairs committee viewed the collection and recommended the city to take it over. But no decision has yet been taken on the future of the archives which are now worth some 120,000 Marks.

In the meantime the Trades Union Confederation based in Düsseldorf, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Bonn and the German department of the Ruhr University, Bochum, have all expressed interest in acquiring Hüser's collection.

The Friedrich Ebert Foundation would like to have it as part of its "Social Democracy Archives". The German department of Bochum University have supplied Hüser with detailed proposals of how it plans to expand the archives into a research institute for working-class literature. The Research Association is willing to provide the necessary cash.

It is only to be hoped that a decision will soon be taken on the future of this unique private library which is attaining growing importance in the field of literary science.

Fritz Hüser realises that an author and subject catalogue must be compiled so that the number of people using the archives can rise still further.

It would be regrettable and all but criminal if, after Hüser's retirement this year, the Archives for Working-Class Writings and Social Literature were to be divided up, perhaps to be dissolved completely at a later date, all because of a delayed decision.

Klaus Morgenstern

(Vorwärts, 18 January 1973)

Fritz Hüser (Photo: Marion Morgenstern)

Financial position of young authors

Continued from page 10

regular job. Many of them said that freelance writing was just an intermediate phase before taking a job as lecturer, editor or dramatic adviser.

Sixty-one per cent of them earnt more than 12,000 Marks in 1970. Twenty-six per cent more than 24,000 Marks. The Spiegel report said that the reason why so many earnt fairly high salaries was that radio stations were crying out for up-to-date topics and these could not be provided by older writers.

Rolf Hochhuth said it was a "scandal" that older authors were often neglected and did not get a say because 24 year-olds were favoured. This is right enough, but one would like to ask Hochhuth where in industry or in daily life old people can now hope for equality of opportunity with the 24 year-olds.

Young writers work very often for radio, television and films, while older authors often capitulate in the face of such a challenge, being afraid to leave the isolation of their writing desk and having no experience of work in a group.

For most young writers it is no longer important whether they write "pure" literature, or whether they are called on to do reports, television fims or analyses of the social situation. Young writers often are unwilling to be called "authors". They consider themselves producers of words and suppliers to the media industry.

Most young writers are well aware of their dependence on the media. Seventy-six per cent of them say that their situation is more like that of an employee than a freelance. But only 43 per cent of writers over the age of sixty feel they are financially dependent.

Martin Doehlemann asked thirty young writers a series of questions in three categories, social standing, political awareness and political attitude. The answers were printed in a book by Leske, Opladen: "Junge Schriftsteller, Wegbereiter einer antiautoritären Gesellschaft."

Among those to reply were Ernst Augustin, Rolf Dieter Brinkmann, Peter Faecke, Otto Jägersberg, Klaus Stiller and Günter Wallraff. From their answers it became clear that no one today can live from purely literary work. Earnings from writing ranged from 25 to 500 Marks a month – not a living wage.

The principle of productivity does not apply either. A writer with a high output does not necessarily earn more than one who dashes off the occasional article. It all depends on where his writings are published.

None of the older writers, for instance, has produced so many projects in recent years as Fassbinder and Franz Xaver Kroetz. The report states that about half the young authors work for more than forty hours a week.

This is a typical day in Angelika Mechtel's life: 5 am – work on book, take children to school; 10 am – work on film set; 2–3 pm – work on book; 4 pm – back on film set; 8 pm – at home, get children to bed. With such a tight schedule there is no room for spontaneity.

But even the author who regulates his timetable with stopwatch accuracy cannot claim to have a guaranteed income. Franz Xaver Kroetz said: „What I earn from the theatre is beer money." As he says, plays by young critical authors are generally performed in studio theatres with 100 to 200 seats. This cannot bring in more than twenty to thirty Marks for the writer. Even with a long run an author cannot hope for more than 1,000 Marks.

Literature prizes and promotional works, from which it is said young writers today can no longer escape, are in fact just a drop in the ocean. More than half of the authors questioned by Doehlemann have won a prize of some kind, but they were all famous writers. Of the selected authors in the Spiegel survey only two per cent had won a prize. And the prizes for young writers are rarely worth more than 1,000 to 3,000 Marks.

Ursula Krechel

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 January 1973)

■ EDUCATION

Munich Museum helps the young understand technology

Frankfurter Neue Presse

Schoolgirls at the Deutsches Museum in Munich were eagerly unloading a container, manipulating tiny switches to operate cranes. They stood in front of a large model which was meant to help them understand technology as they played.

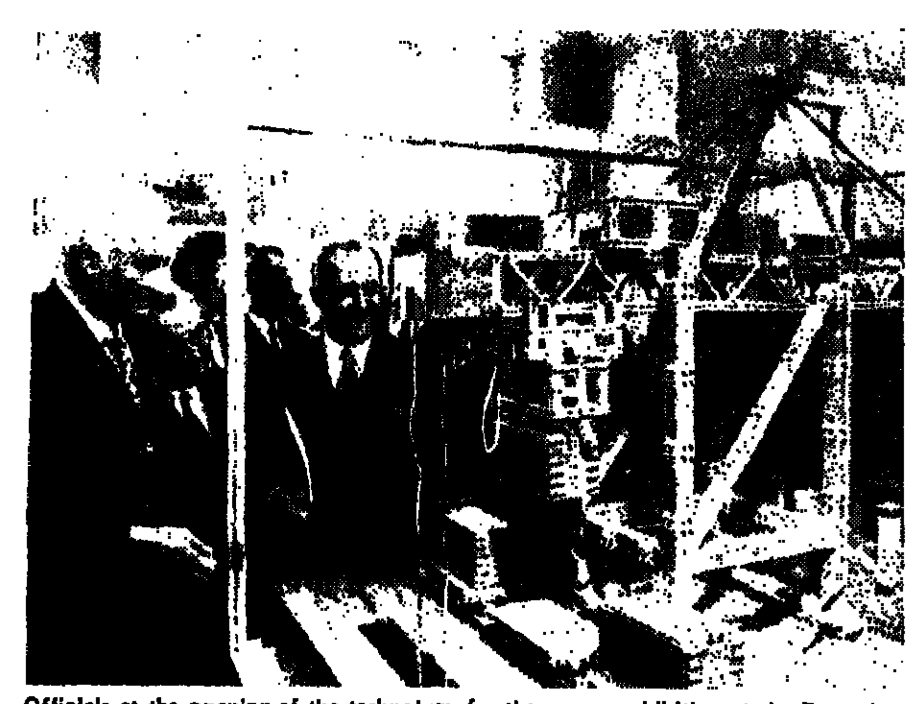
That at any rate is the intention of an exhibition there which is arranged according to purely educational aspects. This exhibition, the first of its type at the Deutsches Museum, will remain open until May.

Machines and experimental appliances that are set in motion by the press of a button have long been a permanent feature in the Deutsches Museum, the largest technological museum on the continent, as they have been elsewhere.

But usually museum visitors could only stand back and gape. They could not really see what was happening. A refined system now enables them to see technological processes in all their stages.

Technology is not something mysterious. Complicated machines are usually based on simple physical laws, as the eighty models in the exhibition demonstrate.

Everyday items such as bicycles, the internal combustion engine and traffic lights are dissected by the construction system to show how they function – and it is also possible to "play" with them.



Officials at the opening of the technology for the young exhibition at the Deutsches Museum, Munich (Photo: Rudolf Dix)

The exhibition starts with the basic processes of movement and steering, before going on to transmission, propulsion and the various gear systems. The exhibition also provides some insight into more complicated processes.

Diagrams and explanations are attached to each model in order to make them more readily understandable and a complementary film is screened twice daily for visitors' information.

A visitor wishing to know how a thermostat functions will eventually come away understanding how a washing machine works. Anyone turning a knob to control light intensity and direct it on to a photographic plate will afterwards understand how safes can be guarded by means of a photoelectric cell.

"Children who learn about scientific and technological problems at early enough an age soon realise that every technical process is prompted and can be controlled by people," a spokesman at the education and public relations department of the Deutsches Museum stated. The drawbacks of technology can also be recognised on a rational basis.

One of the aims of the exhibition in the Deutsches Museum is for visitors to put their own technological ideas into practice. They are given help to solve their problems and themselves become researchers to a certain extent.

Karl Stankiewitz

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 6 January 1973)

Correspondence school for the blind opened

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

This country's first correspond[...] school for the blind recently st[...] operations. The 620 lessons leading fr[...] elementary school level to the stand[...] required by the school-leaving exam[...] tion in three and a half years have b[...] recorded on tape at the Stuttgart lib[...] for the blind. The syllabus was draw[...] by Stuttgart's Association for A[...] Education.

Apart from the tapes which are lo[...] to those of the sixty thousand [...] people in the Federal Republic who[...] to further themselves, extensive b[...] material is also available.

The initiators of the scheme state [...] the course is so arranged that a p[...] can follow it in his spare time [...] spending a day at work and wi[...] straining himself in any way.

But those taking part in the cour[...] expected to attend a total of six hun[...] lessons in Stuttgart, Düsseldorf, Hamb[...] Frankfurt or Munich at weekends. [...] classes are held in the rooms of [...] Academic Association in these cities [...] are also open to those people with [...]

The teaching material is largely bu[...] along the lines of the program[...] learning system. But those taking [...] must also do homework and send [...] results to the correspondence s[...] where they are corrected by tea[...]

Continued on page 13

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They must also sit six intermediate examinations.

A spokesman of the Education for the Blind Foundation in Bad Godesberg, the organisation that largely prompted this scheme, states that the Central State Bureau for Extra-Mural Studies in Cologne has approved the courses. As a result, blind members of the courses can obtain a grant for the monthly fee of 93 Marks.

The aim of the course is to bring the students up to school leaving examination standard. Anyone leaving the course after two and a half years can obtain the intermediate certificate of proficiency. But only three of the first 31 blind persons to start the course in March have restricted themselves to the aim of attaining only the intermediate grade.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 24 January 1973)

■ MEDICINE

Psychologists wrestle with the unable-to-say-no problem

People who won't say no become ill, age prematurely and could under certain circumstances develop a physical handicap, according to Rüdiger Ullrich, 32, and his wife Rita Ullrich de Muynck, 28.

The Ullrichs, both psychologists, analysed the spreading mental inhibition against rejecting demands imposed by the world around. They believe that this disorder is a result of contemporary civilisation, a misguided form of social conduct that is learned by or drummed into a person.

The two researchers examined more than 140 patients with psychoses of this type over the past three years. The case of a 45-year-old civil servant whose mental sickness manifested itself in the form of serious organic symptoms is as crass as it is typical.

"E-d-u-a-r-d ..." His hand began to shake as he wrote the letter "u". "S-c-h-u ..." His fingers shaped into claws as if formed by some invisible force. His whole arm shivered. Bathed in sweat, Eduard Schuster allowed his pencil to drop – he could no longer write his own name.

This terrible battle was the end of a career of pen-pushing. Looking more like an eighty-year-old as a result of premature aging, the man had undergone a number of courses of hospital treatment before coming to the behavioural therapists at the Max Planck Institute for Psychiatry in Munich.

"Are you a civil servant?" Dr Ullrich asked. „Yessir!" came the reply like a shot from a gun. Schuster leaned forward as he spoke and smiled amiably at the two psychologists.

"Are you widowed or divorced?" He considered. "Well, actually I'm married. Have I filled in the form wrong? Sorry, that was stupid of me."

The civil servant had indeed stated he was married on the form. He had an extremely pleasant wife and five children and lived in a modest home on the outskirts of a city in the west.

The psychologists knew most of the details from their files but they wanted the man to talk with them. Three hours later they knew Eduard Schuster's whole life story.

He was born in 1927, was of medium build and average intelligence and was proud of his neat and careful handwriting.

Whenever there was a training course, Schuster would pass it with flying colours. Whenever there was overtime to be done, his boss always found him willing. "With pleasure," was his answer, even if he had not been asked.

"Schuster, could you work through these files before nine o'clock tomorrow morning?" "Certainly," he would eagerly reply, even to such a presumptuous demand as this, and would often sit at his desk before the break of dawn.

Whether he was serving in the armed forces during the war or later working in the public service, he could never say no to anyone. He smiled and did as he was asked.

He started having trouble with his heart at the age of 33. He suffered from insomnia, was ordered to take a rest, wandered from specialist to specialist, took another rest from work, swallowed tablets and sleeping pills and was given injections. His neat handwriting grew shaky.

"The increasing inability to refuse things drives more and more people into a state of strain which treatens their health," Dr Ullrich states. "They often suffer neurotic disorders without realising they have passed their point of maximum endurance."

Though promotion was due at 37, Schuster's application was rejected. Cramp and paralysis were the result. He started to age prematurely. At the age of 45 he was unable to sign his own name.

"Even when demands are extreme, an unbroken will to accomplish will make any climbdown appear like failure," Rita Ullrich de Muynck explains. "The fear of failure however usually spurs a person to accomplish greater things. In this way complaints such a writer's cramp could get out of hand."

With eyes big and friendly, hat in hand and as eager as ever, Schuster eventually attended the most important training course in his life as an invalid in the Max Planck Institute in Munich. He learned to say no.

"Writer's cramps are, we find, the result of mental disorders," the two behavioural therapists reveal. "An incorrect form of conduct like the inability to refuse is usually drummed into a person over a number of years by influences in the world around him. Our therapy therefore rests on helping him unlearn this."

The first thing the socially-disturbed patient practises is to ask for something in his own right. Acting in a group of fellow-sufferers, Schuster was made to ask a passenger in a tram to give up his seat for him. His request would be granted or rejected according to the system worked out by the therapists.

"The patient can always get his demands accepted in this fixed-answer game," Ullrichs explains. "Afterwards the roles are switched. Patients also learn to refuse requests."

These scenes are video-recorded and patients can observe their behaviour when the tapes are replayed. Homework consists of trying to employ what has been learned.

Schuster plucked up more and more courage as he found that he could get his own way – whether at play or in real life. He went to the income tax department and insisted that they explain something to him. He rehearsed how to ask for a rise and not take no for an answer.

"As self-confidence grows, patients lose their fear of failure," the Ullrichs

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claimed. "They learn to accept occasional disappointments as something quite natural. This gives them the strength to refuse something off their own bat and say no."

Women patients with social disorders of this type were made to act out 110 situations with a generally increasing degree of difficulty. The Ullrichs gave this method the name assertive training programme.

"Once lost, the ability to write must be re-learned," they claim. "At first patients simply draw circles. Later, they learn to sign their name in the presence of friends and then in public, perhaps at a post office."

Schuster passed this course with flying colours as usual. Two months later he was refusing to do anything that did not fit in with his plans. His handwriting was once more clear and precise. He returned to his job and was promoted soon afterwards.

Eduard Schuster could easily have been called Willi Lehmann or Franz Huber. His name has been changed anyway. But the story is true.

Volker Mysliwiec

(Die Zeit, 19 January 1973)

Smart alecs cash in on biological rhythm

Frankfurter Rundschau

Biological rhythms rule a person's life. Every organism contains its own "biological clock" which controls its 24-hour day-and-night rhythm along with many physical functions, modes of behaviour and reproductive mechanisms.

This fact is especially true of the obvious twelve-month rhythm to which so many vital processes are subject – the blossoming of a plant, the development of its fruit, migration among animals and birds, the mating season, nest-building, moulting and hibernation.

Although most biological rhythms are common to all members of the same species, there are sometimes individual differences. Though the menstrual cycle normally lasts 28 days it can be longer or shorter in some women. But any divergence from the norm always remains within certain limits.

On top of this, humans are sometimes said to be subject to an extremely personal biological rhythm, based on their date of birth, which determines their whole existence with fateful results.

This idea is already half a century old and it was originally developed by a friend of Sigmund Freud – the Berlin physician Wilhelm Fliess whom I knew well as our family friend and doctor.

Whenever a patient visited him for the first time he would ask his date of birth and that of his parents. At later meetings he would carefully note the exact dates of when the complaint in question ceased, improved or deteriorated. In this way he collected comprehensive statistical material to develop and substantiate the "theory of periodicity in the life of humans" which he later published.

This complex theory, later expanded by his supporters, is based on three precepts – a male cycle of 23 days, a female one lasting 28 days and an intellectual cycle of 33 days.

These magic figures can be used to draw up a timetable for a person's whole life, dividing it up into "positive phases" where performance improves, "negative phases" where performance flags and "critical days" when the person is more prone to sickness and accidents.

As these biorhythmists assume that life begins with a positive phase, they claim that they only need to know a person's date of birth to draw up a type of "biological horoscope" for the rest of his life.

They also manipulate these magic figures through addition, subtraction and other mathematical devices. By juggling with figures in this way, they are always able to find a "critical day" for every cold, sprained ankle or failed examination.

Wilhelm Fliess could never prove his theory and it was soon forgotten. It is only in recent years that it has been resurrected and successfully commercialised.

Enterprising people have founded centres of biorhythmic advice, rationalisation and accident prevention and they have employed pseudo-scientific advertising to sell personal rhythmogrammes and biological clocks!

Many of their numerous customers refuse to drive a car on their critical days and will even stay at home, probably in bed, so as not to risk an accident. Even hard-headed industrialists, who could be expected to be a little more sceptical, use the services of biorhythmic institutes. Some taxi firms order rhythmogrammes for their drivers.

Professor G. Schönholzer, former head of the Swiss Sport and Gymnastics School Research Institute at Magglingen, has spoken out against the commercialisation of a hypothesis that has never been proved and never will be. His frank and convincing criticism consigns the theory of biological rhythms into the sphere of the pseudo-sciences.

On the one hand, it can hardly be imagined that millions of individuals with the same date of birth will be subject to exactly the same rhythm and therefore, to a certain extent, the same fate for the whole of their lives.

On the other, Professor Schönholzer claims that it is completely arbitrary and unfounded to assume, as biorhythmists do, that the timetable of life begins with a positive phase at birth. If a number of individuals were born at a negative phase, the whole rhythm calculated for their existence would be reversed.

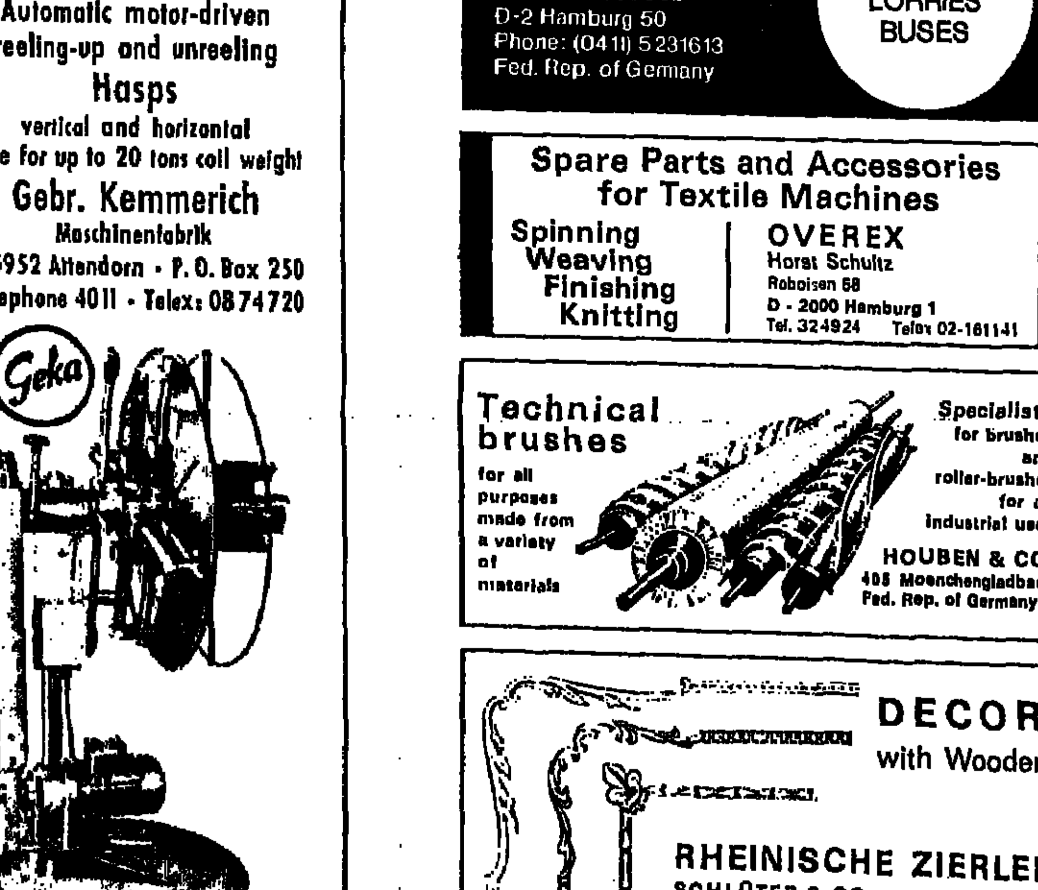
Professor Schönholzer has conducted his own examinations to test the validity of the theory. Details of more than one thousand top sporting performances, mostly world records, were compared with the athletes' dates of birth. He found no statistically significant indication that performance was influenced by biological phases or critical days.

As a result of his deliberations and examinations Professor Schönholzer believes that the theory of biorhythmics is scientifically absurd. He is convinced that the world of real science should now take action to put a stop to this hypothesis.

The theory may have been an original working hypothesis fifty years ago. Today it is no more than a curiosity in the museum of misleading scientific doctrines.

Eric Welser

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 January 1973)





■ OUR WORLD

The long way to a diplomatic career

DIE ZEIT

Diplomats are officially unhappy to hear themselves spoken of as an exclusive elite, but among themselves they are convinced that this is the case. The facts clearly indicate that to be a diplomat specific qualifications are called for.

They are few in number. At the end of 1972 there were 950 officials among the higher ranks of this country's diplomatic corps. A third of them held posts at home, mainly at the Foreign Office, and to some extent in the Federal Chancellery. There are some 650 diplomats of various grades representing this country at embassies and legations throught the world.

A person who wants to take up a diplomatic career must be a graduate of a kind. Hartmut Schulze-Boysen head of recruitment in the Bonn Foreign Office explained: "No particular course of studies is asked for of candidates for the diplomatic service. But a candidate's studies should have some relationship to everyday problems, economic, legal and historical."

People who have studied law and economics have an advantage in this case. Hartmut Schulze-Boysen said: "A person who has studied law has some acquaintance with economics and an economist knows something about law. But for a chemist this is all unknown territory."

So the vast majority of diplomats are lawyers or economists. But more and more chemists, philologists, engineers and even theologists are finding openings for them with careers in the diplomatic corps. By advertising in academic circles the Foreign Office is trying to loosen the grip lawyers have on the service.

Women in the diplomatic service offer an interesting field of study. Only ten per cent of diplomatic jobs are taken by women. At the Foreign Office there is no distrust of women but simply it is thought that it is not likely that women could be tough as regards implementing policies. In the Bundestag women are inadequately represented, on the political desks of newspapers and magazines women hardly feature at all so women are not all that interested in what goes on at the Foreign Office.

In cultural affairs or as press officers many young women would undoubtedly do a very fine job. This would probably not be the case in the more unexciting spheres of economics and the like. But the Foreign Office has little room for specialists.

Education and sex then limit the applicants for a job in the Foreign Office., But after that another selection process takes place. At the last intake, for instance, 197 candidates presented themselves. They wrote an essay on a political theme, did translations, and answered general knowledge questions. From these 84 were selected for the short-list and then went to Bonn for verbal examinations.

In the second leg of application each candidate discusses his past career and educational achievements, makes a short speech and takes part in a general discussion. And finally each candidate has to undergo a psychological test, which usually knocks fifty of the candidates out of the running. In the end only thirty candidates are left in the race of the almost 200 who originally applied, and this figure is reduced according to the places available. In 1968 there were only twelve places available, whilst in 1965 there were sixty.

Once a candidate has passed the tests then with one-hundred per cent certainty he is in. Not a single candidate has been ultimately rejected after having passed the tests in the past few years.

The candidates, most of them round the thirty years of age mark, have to go through an eight-month long course which consists of further language training, administration, legal and economic affairs and history.

Lecturers are professors from different universities, journalists, economics and administration experts. The course is hectic and as candidates have later confirmed, designed to give a good basic knowledge of the subjects included.

Candidates then come to the great day when they take up their first post abroad. The first assignment is normally in Europe, usually to save money. This period is mostly of eight months duration. For lawyers that is the end of the training but for others there is a further eight month period to be served back in the Federal Republic.

They have to gain experience either in the Foreign Office, the Federal Chancellery or in the Federal Press and Information Office. It is also possible to volunteer for positions in industry. Training in future is to be and Information standardised for every one.

Political affiliations have little influence on a diplomat's career. Those who stay at the centre of things probably get on quicker than colleagues who spend a lot of time abroad.

The Foreign Office itself is of course the political head and the centre for planning and strategy. But this does not mean that embassies are manned by non-political staff.

Many people take up a career in diplomacy not out of an interest in political affairs but from an interest in foreign cultures and countries.

Diplomats going abroad are offered overseas cost of living allowances and this higher rate of pay is offered to all grades of the service, first secretary to clerical staff. They have to maintain a higher standard of living and the State pays for this.

In the main diplomats like to run an organisation and be responsible for a department. In many instances an ambassador would have a lower rank in the service than a man at a desk in the Foreign Office but living in the official residence and having the title excellency makes up for a lot. *Dieter Merten*

(Die Zeit, 19 January 1973)

Lufthansa cabin staff

When bidding goodbye to the members of the 154th class for cabin staff, Herbert Frommke, head of Lufthansa's training department, Frankfurt, said that the line's cabin staff which is 1,700 strong would probably have to be increased to 4,000 by the end of 1974. In other words another generation of cabin staff would be needed for the jet age.

The widely accepted idea that Lufthansa would only take girls who had the Abitur has proven to be quite incorrect. Herbert Frommke listed the qualifications Lufthansa was looking for for cabin staff: it is taken for granted that cabin staff will have had a medium education, ability to speak English, and, for girls, a knowledge of another language such as French, Spanish or Portuguese. Candidates should be between 20 and 28 and the girls should be 1.60 to 1.78 metres tall, the men at least 1.68 metres tall.

Lufthansa does not offer jobs in the air to young married girls. Herbert Frommke commented: "For young married girls there are always complications if they are employed in aircraft. Either the girls or their marriage suffers from the separation that is inevitably in the job."

During the seven week course cabin staff under training are paid 600 Marks a month. As soon as they are have passed the tests and are "air-trained" they are almost immediately allocated to a flight.

Cabin staff are paid monthly 1,325 Marks for 13 months a year. They are expected to put in 60 flying hours a month. When overseas staff are paid a daily rate for being away from home and of course hotel bills are taken care of by Lufthansa.

"Of course some sacrifices are expected," one stewardess explained. She has been cabin staff for eight years. She continued: "Schedules don't take into consideration Sundays and national holidays. But for someone who is not bound by the calendar for leisure time cabin staff in an airline has as much free time as people working in other jobs."

Peter Parker

(Münchner Merkur, 10 January 1973)

New arms ownership legislation

Only people with the necessary expertise and permission have been allowed to own a lethal weapon since the new firearms law took effect on 1 January, standardising regulations throughout the Federal Republic and contributing to internal security.

Two clauses specify weapons not covered by the new law and state the regulations to which purchasers are to be subject in future.

The new law states that only persons with the necessary reliability and expertise in handling weapons will be allowed to possess arms and ammunition. They must also prove that they need the weapon for a legitimate reason.

Persons fulfilling these conditions may go to their local police station and obtain a gun licence and a certificate allowing them to purchase ammunition.

Persons possessing weapons before the law took effect are required to report the fact to their police station by 30 June 1973 at the latest. They do not need to provide proof of expertise or legitimate need, however. They receive a free gun licence to demonstrate that they have registered the weapon with the authorities.

The need to obtain a gun licence does not apply to certain non-lethal types of arms, as long as their firing energy does not exceed 7.5 Joules. Weapons of this type are rarely used to commit crimes and manufacturers have been instructed to fit safety devices to ensure that they cannot be converted into lethal weapons.

Persons wishing to obtain another weapon must either undergo an examination before a special committee or provide proof that they need it for professional reasons. Persons with a hunting licence or qualifications as a gunsmith need not undergo this examination. (Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 January 1973)

Career training

Exactly 27 per cent of all w... males in the Federal Republi... had a career training. But prospect... improved in recent years. Only ei... per cent of persons starting wor... 1955 have not attended training c... the Federal Labour Bureau's depar... of labour and career research claims.

The sons of unskilled or par... trained workers often start work w... previously attending a career t... course. But eighty per cent of the s... self-employed farmers first attend ... ing courses. In the past there ... tendency for them to become uns... labourers as soon as they left school.

Training courses operated by ... themselves are the most common fo... career training among males. A to... 44 per cent have received training ... blue-collar job and eleven per cent ... white-collar post.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 6 Janua...

Cinemagoers

The average cinemagoer in this co... is young, most likely male and s... has an average income and a mediu... advanced education, according to a m... research study conduted by M... commissioned by a Frankfurt ... and television advertising agency ... made public recently.

More than 4,000 contacts were ma... conduct the survey and 533 repre... tive cinemagoers were interviewed.

Seventy per cent of the cinema... were under 30. The surprise was t... large sixty per cent of the cinem... were single. Almost a half, 38 per c... those interviewed had an income of... 1,500 Marks per month.

In the main westerns, sex film... comedies were the most favoure... fare of the people contacted. The... critical groups were those betwee... 19 and the over forties.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 Januar...

Preferred sex

Every fourth woman would rath... man but only every twelfth m... this country would rather be a f... according to a survey published b... Allensbach market research institute.

The Allensbach pollsters asked ... question: "If you came back to earth... a second life would you rather be a m... or a woman?"

A surprising 26 per cent of the wo... said they would rather come back a... man. Thirteen per cent of the wo... asked were indifferent to what sex t... were and 61 per cent of the girls w... glad to be girls.

Coyly eight per cent of the m... questioned admitted they would pref... be of the fair sex next time round, ... per cent had no opinion one way or ... other and a massive 88 per cent of t... men were glad to be men.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 Januar...

Bird lovers

Canaries and parakeets have bec... the most popular birds to be kep... the home in the Federal Repu... Almost every 30th citizen in this cou... has either of these birds at hom... according to a survey carried out by ... canary keepers association.

There are almost two million ca... in homes in this country according to ... association's recent report.

There are more than 30,000 ... who breed for a hobby and wh... semiprofessional, intent on prod... birds for sale.

Providing good breeding faciliti... much to be commended because ... according to expert breeders, only ... captivity for about four to five years...

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 15 Janua...

■ SPORT

Motor-cyclists' Elephant Meeting at Nürburgring

Old hands stand at the ready, covered virtually from head to toe in long ...ther overcoats, but they are well ...tnumbered by crowds of young men ...d girls.

It is a wet, cold January evening at the ...rt and finish of the Nürburgring ...cetrack. In front of them all a wreath ...n be made out in the torchlight. "In ...emory of Absent Friends of Motor-Cycle Racing", the ribbon proclaims.

The assembled company doff their helmets in honour of absent friends and the high point of the largest motor-cycle meeting in this country, indeed in Europe, has been reached.

They come from all over Europe, an estimated 12,000 riders and motor-cycles of all sizes this time, for this year's Elephant Meeting.

The Spartan atmosphere of years gone by is not so readily apparent, though. Seventeen years have elapsed since the first Elephant Meeting was held near Stuttgart and a great many changes have occurred since 1956.

The two dates mark turning points in the history of motor-cycling, the post-war period on the one hand and the affluent society on the other.

With increasing prosperity, it will be recalled, changes took place in the motoring habits of people in this country. In the post-war period the motor-cycle was King, then, from the mid-fifties onwards, the done thing was to own a motor-car of gradually increasing size to demonstrate one's ability to buy and run the status symbol of a society renowned for its "economic miracle."

The ensuing decline of the motor-cycle was, as it were, responsible for the holding of the Elephant Meeting.

A handful of motor-cycle enthusiasts were worried lest their hobby fail to survive the depredations of the motor-car. BMWs, Puchs and Zündapps were no longer in demand, with or without sidecar. The Goggo and the Volkswagen Beetle led the field.

Stuttgart motor-cycle enthusiasts put their heads together and advertised in a local paper. Over the first weekend in January 1956 twenty-six Zündapp KS 601s, known as "Green Elephants," assembled at a nearby racetrack.

The annual Elephant Meeting of motor-cycles of all makes increased in size. The meeting was transferred to larger venues, first Feldberg in the Taunus mountains near Frankfurt, then, in 1961, the wintry Nürburgring in the Eifel mountains. At this time of the year the stands are empty, so are the pits, and there is ample room to park and camp.

The meeting continued to be characterised by the atmosphere of the initiators, determined as they had been to rid themselves of excess pounds put on over Christmas and New Year by hard work on the saddle of a heavy motor-bike.

No one, of course, could have predicted the resurgence of motor-cycling, the Easy Rider myth and the inexpensive models imported from Japan.

The number of motor-cycles newly registered peaked in 1952 at 305,000, declining to 30,000 in 1955 and 67,000 in 1956. Rock bottom was reached in 1966 when the number was a mere 2,954, since when there has been a steady increase to 25,600 last year.

In the course of these seventeen years the Elephant Meeting has developed from a gathering of the fanatical few to an event younger enthusiasts like to think of as a happening.

The old hands and erstwhile purists are worried, even, that things are getting out of hand, not that there was ever all that much organisation involved in the traditionally informal gathering.

Officially the Motor-Cycling Association, which has assumed responsibility for the meeting, considers it a "demonstration of good will beyond the borders of Germany" and a "demonstration of understanding beyond the borders of Western Europe."

On the quiet officialdom is worried, though. No one would like to hazard a guess as to how much longer the organisers will be able to proudly claim that there have never been serious accidents at the Elephant Meeting.

Viewed from the hut erected as a provisional office at the start of the Nürnbergring, the phalanxes of riders and machines of all shapes and sizes does make one wonder what the point of the exercise is.

The black leather uniforms, crash helmets and boots of the streamlined youthful majority on their noisy Hondas, Nortons, Motoguzzis and BMWs costing anything up to 16,000 Marks, accompanied almost coincidentally, or so it would seem, by pasty-faced, shivering girlfriends, stand in stark contrast with the grey-haired old timers on their ex-Wehrmacht motor-cycles, vestiges of an honoured but no longer particularly real past.

Most of them come because of the opportunity of going for a long ride on their bikes. Asked why the Elephant Meeting was being held Ken Morrison of Manchester replied that it was a protest against the amount of road tax paid by motor-cycle owners or something.

Ken Rhodes of Canada, who had travelled from Lahr, Baden, said he was under the impression it was some sort of memorial service for enthusiasts killed in motor-cycle accidents.

For an old lady from Crawley, Sussex, who has been here with her husband regularly for the past seven years it represents a welcome opportunity of meeting other motor-cycle enthusiasts.

The unofficial organisers are not worried by people such as these. What upsets them is the growing number of participants who seem to feel that the winter cold represents an opportunity of drinking themselves silly in public and en masse.

The original aim, that of allowing hardened oldsters, men for the most part, to pit their wits and reactions against winter weather, would seem to have gone by the board, though.

This year Adrian Barker of Australia won the modest cup awarded to the participant who has covered the longest distance to take part. He had ridden across Australia and through South-East Asia before boarding a ship bound for England and only just made the Nürburgring in time.

There can be no denying, however, that despite this feat the emphasis of the Elephant Meeting is no longer on the accomplishments of a few hardy individualists. Trading in spares, souvenirs and other fashionable accountrements has gained the upper hand.

What is more, January's weather in the Eifel mountains is no longer what it used to be. For the past two years there has been no snow and the approach roads are salted when black ice is forecast, bus drivers and local motorists not being keen on "sporting" conditions.

Those who come have only themselves to blame, the proud boast used to be, and Horst Miethe, old timer and PRO to the organisers can but mutter it under his breath as he gazes this time at the army of participants.

Attempts are still made to pretend that it is a gathering of a few hundred enthusiasts, adventurous motor-cycle fans and old acquaintances, and one does continually meet people who claim not to have missed an Elephant Meeting for years.

Mrs Pratt of Folkestone, for instance has crossed the Channel for the past eight years in a plywood trailer behind her husband's motor-bike. The Pratts are in their late fifties, have made many friends at Elephant Meetings and a number of acquaintances from the Nürburgring visit them in Kent during the summer.

Despite the growing commercialisation they enjoy themselves, as does Matti of Finland, who used regularly to win the award for the participant who came the furthest distance to the meeting.

The erstwhile oldest participant, an 83-year-old Frenchman from Lorraine, now prefers to come by rail but he is still a regular.

The only people who are still delighted at the increasing numbers are the local villagers who earn a fair amount of money from this annual gathering. Local hostelries are full of motor-cyclists in adventurous garb, accompanied, of course, by their heavyweight mounts.

Many participants are no longer content with camping out in the rough. They stay in hotels and private houses over the weekend. In a twenty-mile radius of the racetrack there is not an inn without its complement of motor-cycles in the parking-lot, and hotels are fully booked.

Many participants do not don their gear until after breakfast when the local farmers head for Mass in their Sunday best. They then ride to the track, roar once round the circuit and park their machines for general admiration.

The organisers feel themselves to have lost control over the course of events. So they have — for years. This is not what they have in mind and the present state of affairs would never have materialised had it not been for the "idiotic motor-cycle boom," as one official put it.

Next year, it would seem, there are going to be changes. "We may well postpone the whole business till February." The old timers would like to be among themselves. *Grit Porsch*

(Die Zeit, 19 January 1973)



Bob-sleigh championship win

Two-man bob Olympic gold medallist Peter Utzschneider (left) and Wolfgang Zimmerer have won the European championships on the notorious Cervinia run. In 4 min. 48.14 sec. they pipped Horst Floth of Riessersee and his brakeman Willi Holdorf of Leverkusen (4 min. 48.65 sec.) at the post. The placings were definite after the first two races on the first day of the championships, Olympic gold medallists Zimmerer and Utzschneider making sure of overall victory in the third race with a best time of 1 min. 11.87 sec.

(Photo: Werek)

Skiing with sails

Skiing with wings has become the latest fad for the winter sports set. The 'sails' enable the skier to take to the air for short periods — if he or she is going down fast enough

(Photo: dpa)